

**OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT IN THE
FIRST TEN YEARS OF CROATIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
(1 JULY 2013 – 30 JUNE 2023)**

As the national parliament of a European Union member state, the Croatian Parliament participates in the management of European affairs, acting by virtue of powers granted to it by the founding Treaties of the Union and the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, and in accordance with the Act on the Cooperation of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia in European Affairs and the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament.

Since Croatia became a member of the European Union three years after the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, the Croatian Parliament is the first national parliament to have built its own model of conducting European affairs based on the extended powers that the Lisbon Treaty conferred onto national parliaments.

The European Affairs Committee manages European affairs in accordance with the Act on the Cooperation of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament, unless the Parliament decides otherwise.

Reporting on the meetings of the European Council

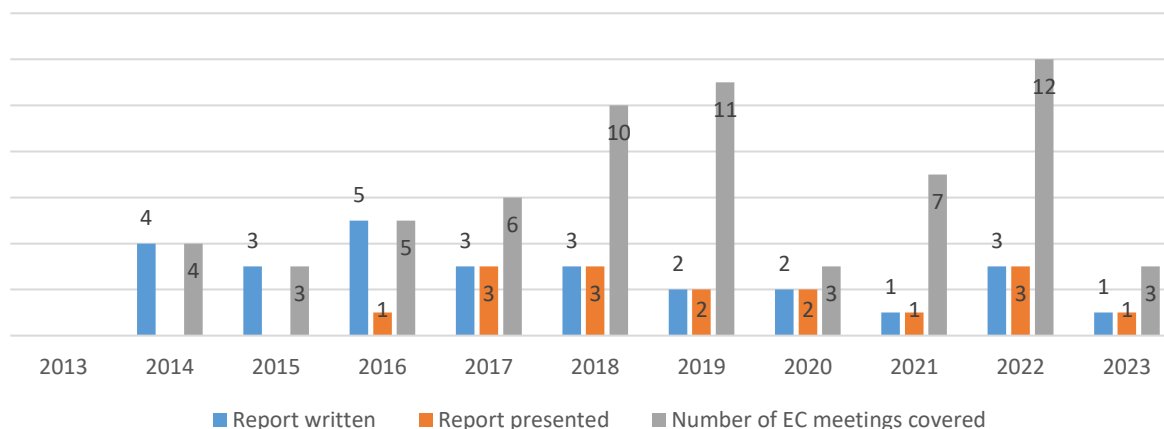
Once a year, at the beginning of the first annual session of Parliament, the Prime Minister submits a report on the meetings of the European Council held in the preceding calendar year, while during the year he submits reports on individual meetings of the European Council. After the debate on a submitted report, the Parliament votes on accepting or rejecting it.

In the first ten years of Croatia's membership in the European Union, the Croatian Parliament discussed nine annual reports on the meetings of the European Council with reference to the previous year.

Furthermore, over the years, 27 reports on individual meetings of the European Council were submitted, 16 of which were presented at the session of Parliament. After debate, the Parliament accepted the presented reports. The reports covered 64 meetings of the European Council.

Year	Reports on EC meetings with reference to the previous year	Reports on current year EC meetings		
		Written reports	Reports presented	Number of EC meetings covered
2013	-	-	-	-
2014	1	4	-	4
2015	1	3	-	3
2016	-	5	1	5
2017	1	3	3	6
2018	1	3	3	10
2019	1	2	2	11
2020	1	2	2	3
2021	1	1	1	7
2022	1	3	3	12
2023	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	9	27	16	64

Reports on current year European Council meetings



Reporting on the meetings of the Council of the European Union

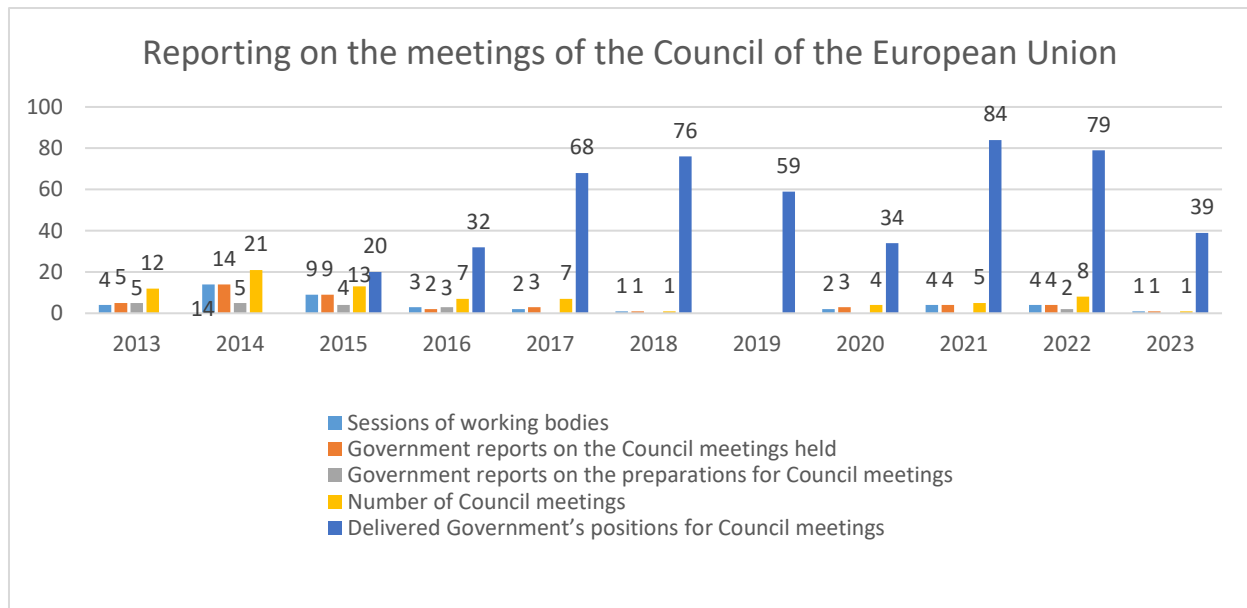
The Government reports to the Parliament on the positions of the Republic of Croatia for the meetings of the Council of the European Union in which the Government participates. These positions are delivered to the European Affairs Committee, which forwards them to the competent working body in line with the configuration of the Council. The European Affairs Committee may ask the Government to report on a meeting that the Council already held and on their preparations for a forthcoming meeting of the Council.

In the ten years of EU membership, the European Affairs Committee held 39 sessions in all, where the relevant ministries presented the reports on the meetings of the Council of the European Union that had already taken place and on their preparations for the Council meetings to come.

In all instances, the European Affairs Committee held joint sessions with the working bodies of Parliament whose remits correspond to those of each Council configuration. Most of these joint sessions were held with the Foreign Policy Committee (12) and the Agriculture Committee (10), followed by those with the Finance and Central Budget Committee (5), the Judiciary Committee (4), the Environment and Nature Conservation Committee (4), the Committee on the Economy (2), the Committee on Maritime Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure (1) and the Domestic Policy and National Security Committee (1). The Agriculture Committee held four independent sessions where it considered the reports from the meetings of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council.

Most of the abovementioned sessions were held in the first three years of Croatia's EU membership, i.e. in the 7th term of Parliament, when the reports on meetings of various Council configurations were discussed. In later years though, the reports discussed referred primarily to the General Affairs Council and the Foreign Affairs Council.

Year	Sessions of working bodies of Parliament	Government reports on the Council meetings held	Government reports on the preparations for forthcoming Council meetings	Number of Council meetings presented at committee session	Number of delivered Government's positions for Council meetings
2013	4	5	5	12	-
2014	14	14	5	24	-
2015	9	9	4	13	20
2016	3	2	3	7	32
2017	2	3	-	7	68
2018	1	1	-	1	76
2019	-	-	-	-	59
2020	2	3	-	4	34
2021	4	4	-	5	84
2022	4	4	2	8	79
2023	1	1	-	1	39
TOTAL	43	46	19	82	491



Consideration of the positions of the Republic of Croatia on draft legislative acts of the European Union

By considering the positions of the Republic of Croatia on the documents of the European Union, the Parliament controls the activities of the Government in the decision-making process in the Council of the European Union.

For the purpose of monitoring the Government's work in the Council of the European Union, the European Affairs Committee establishes an annual work programme for the consideration of the positions of the Republic of Croatia. The Government adopts its positions on the documents cited in the work programme, delivers them to the Parliament and the European Affairs Committee then forwards them to the competent working bodies of Parliament.

After debating the positions, the European Affairs Committee adopts conclusions based on which the Government acts in the Council of the European Union. If the Government departs from the conclusions of the European Affairs Committee, it shall notify the Parliament thereof.

The developments in the process of consideration of the positions can be followed in the [e-Doc](#) database managed by the Information and Documentation Department of the Croatian Parliament. The positions are published in this database along with related opinions of working bodies and conclusions of the European Affairs Committee.

From 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, the European Affairs Committee:

- **adopted 11 work programmes for the consideration of the positions of the Republic of Croatia;**
- **submitted for consideration a total of 283 positions; and**
- **adopted 260 conclusions on the positions of the Republic of Croatia.**

From 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, responsible working bodies of Parliament adopted 399 opinions on the positions of the Republic of Croatia.

Work programme for the consideration of the positions	Positions of the Republic of Croatia	Opinions of the responsible working bodies	Conclusions of the European Affairs Committee
Work Programme for 2013	15	13	15
Work Programme for 2014	40	43	39
Work Programme for 2015	17	20	16
Work Programme for 2016	23	33	4
Work Programme for 2017	38	42	38
Work Programme for 2018	42	52	33
Work Programme for 2019	25	23	32
Work Programme for 2020	32	49	31
Work Programme for 2021	15	85	47
Work Programme for 2022	25	27	3
Work Programme for 2023	11	12	1+1 ¹
TOTAL	283	399	260

Participation in the procedure of proposing candidates of the Republic of Croatia for the institutions of the European Union

The Croatian Parliament, through the European Affairs Committee, participates in the procedure of proposing candidates of the Republic of Croatia for the institutions and bodies of the European Union – the European Commission, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors and the Management Committee of the European Investment Bank.

The Government submits to the Parliament a report on a candidate of the Republic of Croatia for an institution or a body of the European Union. After holding a hearing with the candidate, the European Affairs Committee issues an opinion on the Government's report. The Government takes into consideration the Committee's opinion when adopting the final decision on the candidate. If the Government does not accept the Committee's opinion, it sends a written notification and explanation to the Parliament.

From 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, the European Affairs Committee participated in six procedures of proposing candidates of the Republic of Croatia for the institutions of the European Union and supported eight candidates proposed by the Government.

¹ Pursuant to Article 155 of the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament, the Foreign Affairs Committee adopted a conclusion on the position of the Republic of Croatia on a document pertaining to the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union.

European Affairs Committee meetings	Procedures completed	Candidates supported
36 th meeting, 22 July 2014	Candidacy as a member of the European Commission 2014-2019	Neven Mimica
37 th meeting, 6 October 2014	Candidacy as a judge of the Court of Justice of the Court of Justice of the European Union 2015-2021	Siniša Rodin
39 th meeting, 14 December 2018	Candidacy as judges of the General Court of the Court of Justice of the European Union 2019-2025	Vesna Tomljenović Tamara Perišin
43 rd meeting, 27 February 2019	Candidacy as a member of the European Court of Auditors 2019-2025	Ivana Maletić
52 nd meeting, 22 August 2019	Candidacy as a member of the European Commission 2019-2024	Dubravka Šuica
12 th meeting, 3 February 2021	Candidacy as a judge and an advocate general of the Court of Justice of the Court of Justice of the European Union 2021-2027	Siniša Rodin Tamara Čapeta

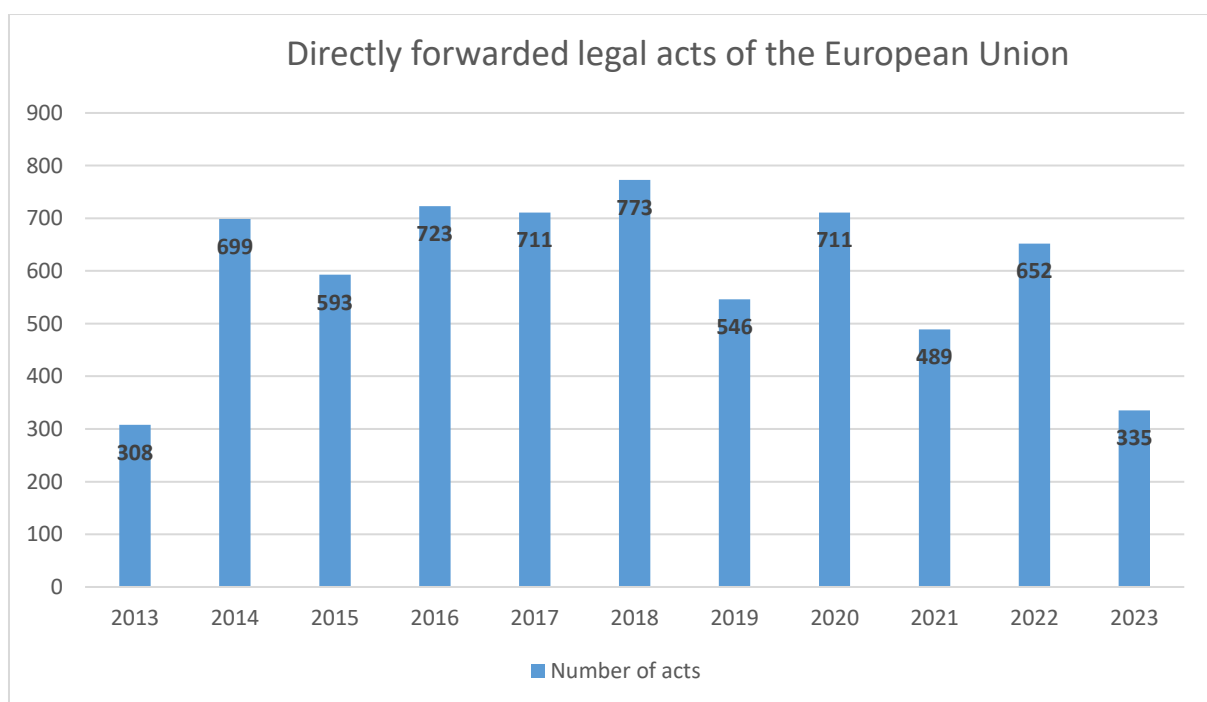
Directly forwarded legal acts of the European Union

Pursuant to the provisions of the [Protocol \(no 1\) on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union](#), the EU institutions shall forward directly to national parliaments all draft legislative and non-legislative acts as well as other non-binding acts.

The Office for International and European Affairs daily publishes these documents in the [EU Documents](#) Section of the Croatian Parliament website, along with information on each act's reference number, adoption procedure, delivery date, subsidiarity check deadline, position of the Republic of Croatia, reasoned opinion and political dialogue, specification of the policy field and the title of the initiative in the Commission Work Programme.

In the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, the institutions of the European Union directly forwarded to the Croatian Parliament 6,540 legal acts in the Croatian language.

Year	Number of EU legal acts
2013	308
2014	699
2015	593
2016	723
2017	711
2018	773
2019	546
2020	711
2021	489
2022	652
2023	335
TOTAL	6,540



Subsidiarity check and political dialogue between the European Commission and the national parliaments of EU member states

The Croatian Parliament participates in the decision-making process of the European Union by monitoring the compliance with the principle of subsidiarity in draft legislative acts and legislative acts of the European Union and by taking part in the procedures of amending the Treaties of the European Union and of implementing the *passerelle* clause.

Opinion exchanges in the framework of political dialogue between national parliaments and the Commission is another a form of direct participation in the decision-making process.

In the first ten years of Croatia’s EU membership, the Croatian Parliament delivered to the Commission two reasoned opinions on two draft legislative acts in which non-compliance with the principle of subsidiarity was established. (In 2014, the proposal regarding the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office; and in 2016, the proposal regarding the posting of workers.)

In the same period, the working bodies of Parliament delivered 17 submissions to the institutions of the European Union regarding different European and national topics, such as, among others, frozen meat consumption, support programme to provide fruit and vegetables to schoolchildren, organic production. Along with the European Affairs Committee, the Agriculture Committee is the one that most frequently made use of the institute of political dialogue.

Submissions of the Croatian Parliament				
Year	Reasoned opinion	Other contributions	European Commission's replies	Working body that made the submission
2013	-	-	-	-
2014	1	3	3	European Affairs Committee
2015	-	3	4	European Affairs Committee (1), Agriculture Committee (2)
2016	1	-	1	European Affairs Committee
2017	-	2	2	Health and Social Policy Committee, European Affairs Committee
2018	-	1	-	Agriculture Committee
2019	-	-	1	-
2020	-	2	1	European Affairs Committee
2021	-	1	2	European Affairs Committee
2022	-	2	1	European Affairs Committee, Agriculture Committee
2023	-	3	1	European Affairs Committee (1), Agriculture Committee (2)
TOTAL	2	17	16	

Legislative alignment

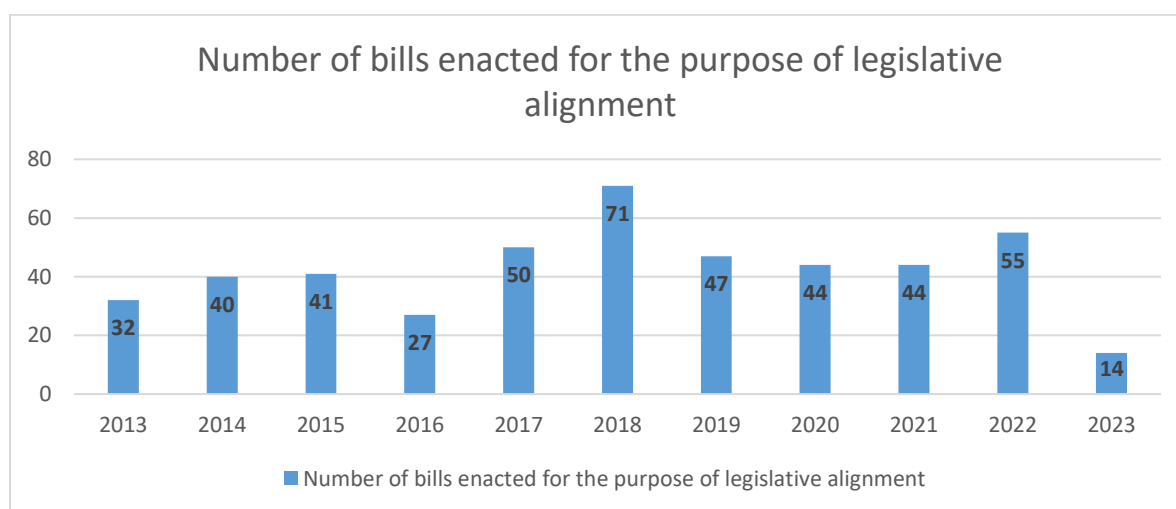
The Croatian Parliament aligns the Croatian legislation with European Union law, in a procedure where all the bills by which this alignment is made bear the designation “P.Z.E.”.

The Croatian Parliament adopts the annual plan for legislative alignment, which is an integral part of the Government’s programme for the EU acquis incorporation and implementation and is the basic document in the process of incorporating and implementing European Union law into Croatian legislation.

All such legislation is published in the e-Doc database of the Information and Documentation Department of the Croatian Parliament.

From 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, the Croatian Parliament passed a total of 465 bills to align Croatian legislation with European Union law.

Year	Number of adopted P.Z.E. bills
2013	32
2014	40
2015	41
2016	27
2017	50
2018	71
2019	47
2020	44
2021	44
2022	55
2023	14
TOTAL	465



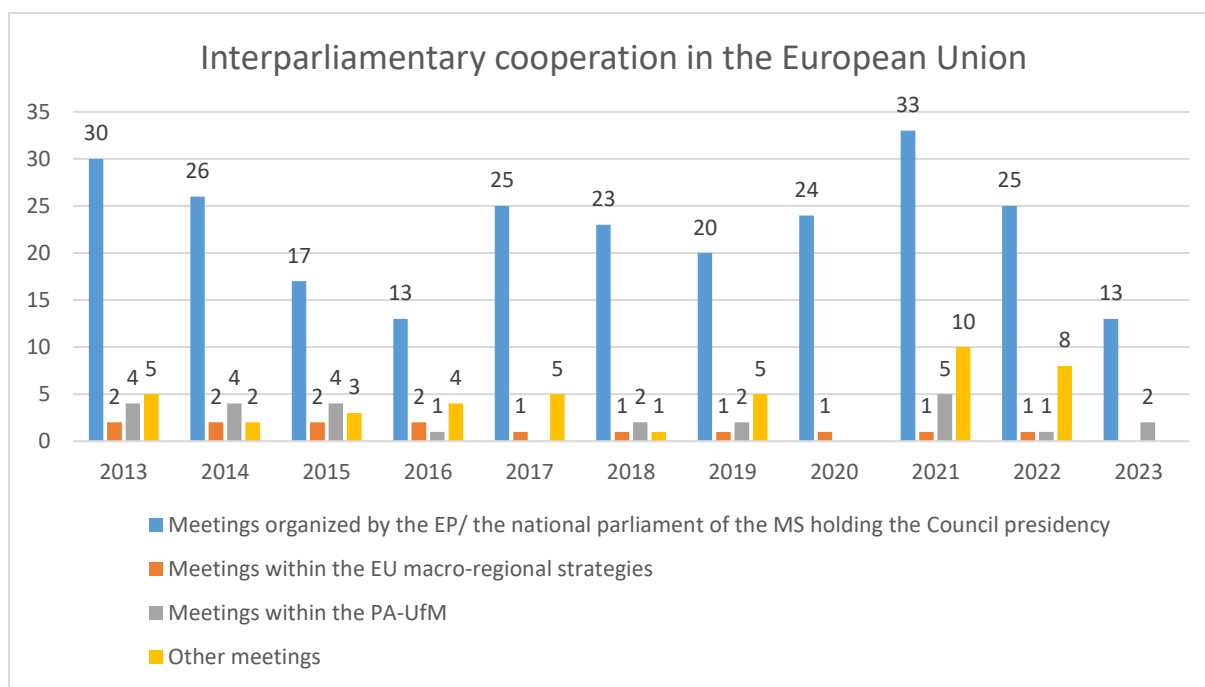
Interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union

Interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union is an instrument for national parliaments to coordinate and influence the decision-making process at the European level. It refers to the cooperation between the European Parliament and national parliaments as well as to the cooperation among national parliaments within the parliamentary dimension of Council presidency.

In the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, the Croatian Parliament held the following meetings within the framework of interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union:

- **249 meetings organized by the EP and/or the national parliament of the member state holding the Council presidency;**
- **14 meetings within the EU macro-regional strategies;**
- **25 meetings within the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean;**
- **43 other meetings (of which 13 in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe);**
- **a total of 331 meetings.**

Year	Meetings organized by the EP/ the national parliament of the MS holding the Council presidency	Meetings within the EU macro-regional strategies	Meetings within the PA-UfM	Other meetings	Total
2013	30	2	4	5	41
2014	26	2	4	2	34
2015	17	2	4	3	26
2016	13	2	1	4	20
2017	25	1	-	5	31
2018	23	1	2	1	25
2019	20	1	2	5	28
2020	24	1	-	-	25
2021	33	1	5	5 + 5 (CoFoE)	49
2022	25	1	1	8 (CoFoE)	35
2023	13	-	2	-	15
TOTAL	249	14	25	30 + 13 (CoFoE)	331



Bilateral cooperation with the institutions, bodies and agencies of the European Union

In the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023, Members of the Croatian Parliament held 82 bilateral meetings with the Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission and with the representatives of the Court of Justice and other EU bodies and agencies.

Year	Bilateral meetings with the European Parliament	Bilateral meetings with the European Commission	Bilateral meetings with the representatives of the Court of Justice, bodies and agencies of the European Union
2013	3	3	0
2014	1	2	0
2015	0	5	0
2016	1	3	0
2017	8	7	0
2018	1	7	1
2019	2	3	2
2020	2	5	0
2021	2	7	2
2022	9	2	1
2023	1	2	0
TOTAL	30	46	6

