



Mr. Arthur Elzinga  
Chair of the Committee of European Affairs  
The Senate

Mr. Malik Azmani  
Chair of the Committee of European Affairs  
House of Representatives

## Norwegian Parliament

Date: 17 December 2015  
Our ref.: 2013/1674

Your ref.:

Dear colleagues,

I am addressing you in your capacity as the incoming Chairs of the EU Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC). The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives have in a joint letter kindly informed our Speaker of the calendar of the conferences and meetings to be held within the parliamentary dimension of the Dutch Presidency of the Council of the European Union. As you are well aware, the Chair and other representatives of the European Consultative Committee of the Norwegian Parliament have for a number of years, and at the discretion of the COSAC Chairs, regularly been invited as a "special guest" to the meetings of COSAC. I believe participation in these meetings has proven to be an arrangement of common value for all of us.

Though not a member of the European Union, Norway is closely associated with the EU through the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement and a number of other agreements. With the EU and Norway so deeply integrated, we share a common interest in increased cooperation and information exchange. Participation in such meetings as the COSAC meetings provides an opportunity to this end.

During the Dutch presidency a COSAC Chair meeting is scheduled for 7 – 8 February and a COSAC Plenary Meeting is scheduled for 12 – 14 June. I would highly appreciate if, after consulting with your troika partners, you could consider extending an invitation to the Norwegian Parliament to these two meetings.

In closing, I would like to wish you every success with the EU presidency.

Looking forward to hearing from you on this matter, I remain,

Yours faithfully

Anniken Huitfeldt  
Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence  
Chair of the European Consultative Committee