



Deutscher Bundestag
Ausschuss für die Angelegenheiten
der Europäischen Union
Der Vorsitzende

Ms. Eva Kjer Hansen
Chairwoman of the European Affairs Committee
Folketinget
Christiansborg
1240 København K
Dänemark

Berlin, 26. Januar 2012

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Dienstgebäude:
Paul-Löbe-Haus

Dear Madam President,

the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union states in Article 13 (as formulated in the draft version of January 19th), that “as foreseen in Title II of the Protocol (No 1) on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union annexed to the European Union Treaties, the European Parliament and the national Parliaments of the Contracting Parties will together determine the organisation and promotion of a conference of the chairs of the budget committees of the national Parliaments and the chairs of the relevant committees of the European Parliament.”

The international treaty thus contains detailed guidelines on the form of cooperation of Parliaments, whereas the national Parliaments have no opportunity to participate in the negotiation of the treaty.

Article 13 has given cause for intensive discussions in the Committee on the Affairs of the European Union of the Bundestag which resulted in a statement in favour of a general reference to Title II – without the determination on the chairs of the budget committees – or a reference to Article 10 and the COSAC. The vast majority of the Committee believes that COSAC is the right forum for parliamentary control of the fiscal compact. As each delegation decides on its composition, representatives of both European Union affairs committees and special committees may attend the meetings. The size of the delegations ensures a balance between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and reflects the political composition of the national Parliament. We believe this important with regard to the budgetary sovereignty of national Parliaments.

Therefore, I would appreciate if this subject was discussed during the Chairpersons' meeting next week with regard to the item of the agenda “The sovereign debt crisis”. An interparliamentary discussion should take place before the initialing of the treaty.



Unfortunately, I will not be present at the meeting, but allow me to introduce Ms. Gabriele Molitor, designated deputy chairwoman of the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Krichbaum', written in a cursive style.

Gunther Krichbaum