



Mr Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE
Chairman of the Joint Committee on
European Union Affairs of the
Cortes Generales

Madrid

**Proposal for supplementary debate at the
XLIII COSAC:**

The proposed framework agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission

Dear Colleague,

The Grand Committee of the Eduskunta today adopted the enclosed opinion on the proposed framework agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission. The opinion will be normative for our government's future actions in the EU Council.

As you know, the European Parliament approved the appointment of the current Barroso Commission only after having received a number of promises about the future relations between the Commission and the Parliament. The EP's expectations of the Commission have been stated in detail in the Parliament's resolution of 9 February 2010 (B7-0091/2010).

In the assessment of the Grand Committee, several of the European Parliament's demands are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Lisbon Treaty. If realised, they would seriously jeopardise the Commission's independence and undermine the EU's institutional balance by requiring an alliance of the EP and Commission against the Council. Any weakening of the Council is an encroachment on the status of the EU's Member States and would ultimately prejudice the ability of national parliaments to influence European policy.

I believe that we are facing a situation where national parliaments' rights in the European sphere need an active and coordinated defence. For this reason, I would like to propose, in spite of the lateness of the initiative, that the proposed framework agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission is added to the agenda of the XLIII COSAC.

I am taking the liberty of sharing this letter with the other COSAC delegations.

In expectation of your favourable consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely

Erkki Tuomioja

Chairman of the Grand Committee