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**Note on
proposals for subjects
for COSAC 2008**



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Proposals for subjects for future COSAC meetings

Article 7.1 of the Rules of Procedure of COSAC states:

"Before the last ordinary meeting of each year the delegations shall indicate the subjects they propose be dealt with the following year."

Article 7.1 adds that the last ordinary COSAC meeting of the year shall discuss this matter.

Article 7.1A stipulates that:

"The principal business on every draft Agenda shall be derived from COSAC's role as a body for exchanging information, in particular on the practical aspects of parliamentary scrutiny."

In accordance with these two rules, at the end of the XXXVIII COSAC meeting in Estoril in October there will be a discussion about which topics COSAC could deal with in 2008.

In order to inform this discussion, national parliaments were asked to suggest subjects COSAC could deal with in 2008. All in all 13 parliamentary chambers sent proposals to the COSAC secretariat. Several parliaments did not make any written proposals for subjects COSAC could deal with in 2008 or indicated that the topic would be dealt within the meeting itself. The table below groups the national parliaments' proposals by subject matter. The subjects most frequently proposed are at the top of the table.

SUGGESTED TOPICS	PARLIAMENT/CHAMBER
Budget of the Union	
(National parliamentary scrutiny of) the Budget Review 2008-2009	Hellenic Parliament, UK House of Commons and House of Lords
Reform of the system of own resources	Polish Senate
Fight against fraud and protection of the financial interests of the Union	Belgian Chambre de Deputés
The Implications of the Reform Treaty/subsidiarity	
The implementation of reform treaty's provisions relevant to national parliaments (in particular the impact of the "early warning system")	Danish Folketinget, Irish Oireactas
Subsidiarity and proportionality - definition and scope of application	Irish Oireactas, Portuguese Assembleia da Republica
Foreign Policy/External relations	
Parliamentary monitoring of the EU Development Policy/Relations with African, Latin America/European Foreign Policy	Portuguese Assembleia de Republica
Situation in Darfur	Luxembourg Chambre des Deputies
EU Enlargement and its relation with European Neighbourhood Policy	Latvian Saeima
EU readiness to solve the Kosovo issue	Latvian Saeima
Eastern Dimension of the EU Neighborhood Policy as well as EU- Russia relations	Polish Senate
Parliamentary scrutiny of EU foreign affairs (CFSP and ESDP) in the light of the Reform Treaty	UK House of Lords
Inter-institutional relations and scrutiny practises	
Parliamentary assessment of the Commission's Legislative and Work Programme 2008/ Scrutiny procedures and lessons learned from scrutiny of the Commission's Annual Work Programme/Annual Policy Strategy	Portuguese Assembleia da Republica, UK House of Lords

The implications of the use of First reading agreements in the co-decision procedure for national parliament scrutiny of Government positions	UK House of Commons
Ensuring effective national parliamentary scrutiny during co-decision (An evaluation of the co-decision procedure focusing on how national parliaments can benefit by an "early scrutiny" of legislative proposals special challenges of First reading agreements and an analysis of the inclusion of specialised committees in this scrutiny)	UK House of Lords
The practices of national parliaments in examining the preparation for, and outcomes of, meetings of the Council of Ministers, including the typology of agreements reached in the Council ("general approach", "political agreement" etc)	UK House of Commons
The significance of draft Conclusions of the European Council and the Council of Ministers, and the scope for parliamentary scrutiny of these documents	UK House of Commons
How effective scrutiny can be ensured with regard to decisions being taken in comitology committees?	UK House of Lords
How national parliamentary scrutiny of EU legislation can, given the constitutional and political context of each individual Member State, take account of the role, work and views of regional assemblies, in particular regional assemblies with legislative powers, and in particular with regard to the monitoring of subsidiarity?	UK House of Lords
Methods of effective engagement with MEPs in the scrutiny process	UK House of Lords
Quality of legislation	Portuguese Assembleia da Republica
Other topics	
Discussion on the issue of European agencies on the basis of the report by the Dutch Council of State: advisory body and administrative court. (Ref. to the Troika discussion during the fall 2006)	Dutch Eerste Kamer
The services of general interest	Belgian Senate
The "privatisations"	Belgian Senate
The Climate change and its consequences - enhanced cooperation in tackling natural disasters	Hellenic Parliament
European Communication Policy	Irish Oireactas
Family Policy (Demographic Future of Europe)	Slovenian National Assembly
Lisbon Strategy (Competitiveness of the EU in R&D)	Slovenian National Assembly
Cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs	Slovenian National Assembly
Legal immigration	Luxembourg Chambre des Deputies
The role of parliaments in the consolidation of recent democracies	Portuguese Assembleia da Republica
Cohesion as a factor of economic growth: compatibility of cohesion, solidarity and environmental protection with the objective of growth and employment	Portuguese Assembleia da Republica