

PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

T H E S E N A T E

LUDEK SEFZIG

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

Prague, December 20th, 2006

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your invitation to the meeting of the COSAC chairpersons on the 12th February, 2007 in Berlin. On behalf of the EU-Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate, I would like to use this opportunity to present some ideas evolving from the last session of our Committee. As is well known, the Czech Senate emphasized during the last EU presidencies the need to bridge a gap between the decision-making process at EU level and citizens. As appropriate measure for national parliaments aiming at that goal, we find the subsidiarity check.

Reflecting the existing legal base, we have appreciated very much concrete actions taken by UK and Austrian Presidency in this direction. Following the successful Finnish presidency, we would like to encourage the upcoming German presidency to continue the subsidiarity check concerning individual legislative proposals. Certainly, the features of the parliamentary scrutiny evolve from national constitutional rules and practise. But the efficiency of the parliamentary scrutiny in more sophisticated cases of subsidiarity check presupposes active engagement and coordination at European level. This coordination enables the exchange of experience and information between national parliaments and enhances the capacity of parliamentary scrutiny in Member States.

The coordination role enables COSAC to find an important *raison d'être* for long-term perspective and can legitimate the effort to establish permanent secretariat financed by

parliaments of Member States. Attached to this letter, there is resolution of the EU-Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate listing the legislative proposals selected from LWP of the European Commission for the year 2007. Certainly, the legislative proposals selected by national parliaments can differ, but there could be finally found a compromise, which draft acts should be scrutinized under auspices of COSAC. I would appreciate, if this topic could be dealt with in the meeting of COSAC chairpersons. Therefore, I send the copy of this letter to COSAC secretariat too.

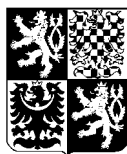
Please accept our best wishes for a successful presidency,

Yours sincerely,

Matthias Wissmann
Chairman of the Committee on
the Affairs of the European Union
Bundestag

Willi Stächele
Chairman of the Committee on
Questions of the European Union
Bundesrat

PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
SENATE



6th term of office

19th RESOLUTION

OF THE COMMITTEE ON EU AFFAIRS
from session 3 as held on 13 December 2006

regarding the Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, Commission Legislative and Work Programme 2007
(Senate Print No. K 104/05)

Following introductory information from Libor Sečka, Head of the European Union Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a report from Senator Luděk Seřzig, and following debate

the Committee

I. notes

the Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, Commission Legislative and Work Programme 2007;

II. recommends

devoting heightened attention to compliance with the principle of subsidiarity in debating the following legislative proposals:

- proposal for a general framework directive addressing labour immigration;
- proposal for a directive on the conditions of entry and residence of highly skilled workers;
- proposal for a revision of the council framework decision on combating terrorism;
- proposal for a regulation on the transfer of defence products;
- proposal for a directive on the coordination of procedures for award of public contracts in the defence sector;
- measures to ensure the completion of the internal market for electricity and gas;
- community framework for safe and efficient health services;
- framework decision (or decision) on the protection of witnesses and individuals who cooperate with the judicial process.

III. commissions

Chairperson of the Committee Senator Luděk Seřzig to inform the President of the Senate and the Presidency of the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) of this Resolution. It is the opinion of the Committee that COSAC

should continue to coordinate the revision of subsidiarity for the selected legislative proposals.

Luděk Sefzig *sign manual*
Chairperson of the Committee

Luděk Sefzig *sign manual*
Rapporteur of the Committee

Václav Koukal *sign manual*
Verifier of the Committee