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Plenary meeting of the LXII COSAC

1 – 3 December 2019

Helsinki, Finland

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONTRIBUTION OF THE LXII COSAC

Original text	Proposed amendments
<p>Appointment and work programme of the von der Leyen Commission</p> <p>[P.M. – to be updated]</p>	<p><u>CY - VOULI TON ANTIPROSOPON</u></p> <p><u>CZ - POSLANECKÁ SNĚMOVNA & SENÁT</u></p> <p><u>DE - BUNDESTAG & BUNDES RAT</u></p> <p><u>FR - ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE & SÉNAT</u></p> <p><u>HU - ORSZÁGGYŰLÉS</u></p> <p><u>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</u></p> <p><u>LV - SAEIMA</u></p> <p><u>PL - SEJM</u></p> <p><u>PT - ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA</u></p> <p><u>SK - NÁRODNÁ RADA</u></p> <p>The Danish Folketing and the Greek Vouli ton Ellinon intend to co-sign. (before the first paragraph, insert paragraphs as follows)</p> <p>Conference on the Future of Europe</p>

	<p><i>Given the role of national parliaments within the democratic foundation of the European Union, their institutional competencies and the need to strengthen their involvement in the European decision- making process, COSAC considers it indispensable for national parliaments to be fully involved in the definition of objectives, the organization and implementation of the Conference on the Future of Europe.</i></p> <p><i>To this end, COSAC requests that representatives of all national parliaments de jure participate in all meetings scheduled within the framework of the Conference and have the option of presenting their own proposals on the future of Europe.</i></p> <p><u>SE - RIKSDAGEN</u></p> <p><i>(1) COSAC reiterates that the due involvement of national Parliaments in policymaking and legislative processes at European level is of major importance for ensuring a high degree of transparency, efficiency and public acceptance. COSAC encourages the EU's institutions and national and regional Parliaments, regional and local authorities, and civil society to work together in order to improve the exchange of ideas between Parliaments, authorities and citizens across the European Union.</i></p> <p><i>(2) In light of the Conference on the Future of Europe, announced in the political guidelines of the new Commission, COSAC stresses the importance of fully and adequately involving the National Parliaments in the works of the Conference, at all stages of the process.</i></p>
<p>Multi-annual Financial Framework</p> <p>(1) COSAC calls for the timely approval of the 2021 – 2027 Multiannual Financial Framework MFF), recalling that late adoption means delayed implementation of the European Union's strategic targets. COSAC stresses the need for significant progress at the December 2019 European Council.</p>	<p><u>EL - VOULI TON ELLINON</u></p> <p>(1) COSAC calls for the timely approval of the 2021 – 2027 Multiannual Financial Framework MFF), recalling that late adoption means delayed implementation of the European Union's strategic targets <i>and that a robust MFF is necessary to face critical challenges, such as climate change, migration and fighting unemployment, which no member-state can face alone.</i> COSAC stresses the need for significant progress at the December 2019 European Council.</p>

	<p><u>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</u></p> <p>(1) COSAC calls for the timely <i>and satisfactory</i> approval of the 2021 – 2027 Multiannual Financial Framework MFF), recalling that late adoption means delayed implementation of the European Union’s strategic targets. COSAC stresses the need for significant progress at the December 2019 European Council.</p>
<p>Multi-annual Financial Framework</p> <p>(2) COSAC observes that all Member States have a stake in the Union’s strategic targets, which are competitiveness, the encouragement of innovation, climate policy and biodiversity. A constructive approach to the MFF requires that all Member States’ nominal budget targets are balanced against the expected benefits of mutually agreed investments in the future. COSAC recalls that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion spending are compatible with these agreed strategic targets.</p>	<p><u>EL - VOULI TON ELLINON</u></p> <p>(2) COSAC observes that all Member States have a stake in the Union’s strategic targets, which are competitiveness, the encouragement of innovation, climate policy and biodiversity. A constructive approach to the MFF requires that all Member States’ nominal budget targets are balanced against the expected benefits of mutually agreed investments in the future. COSAC recalls that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion spending are compatible with these agreed strategic targets. <i>At the same time it recognizes the enormous contribution of the Common Agricultural and Cohesion Policies to the prosperity of all EU citizens and to safeguarding social cohesion and the European way of life throughout the Union.</i></p> <p><u>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</u></p> <p>(2) COSAC observes that all Member States have a stake in the Union’s strategic targets, which are competitiveness, the encouragement of innovation, climate policy and biodiversity. A constructive approach to the MFF requires that all Member States’ nominal budget targets are balanced against the expected benefits of mutually agreed investments in the future. COSAC recalls that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion spending are compatible with these agreed strategic targets. <i>COSAC stresses that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion spending has to be confirmed at an appropriate level, compatible with the Union’s strategic targets.</i></p> <p><u>PT - ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA</u></p>

	<p>(2) COSAC observes that all Member States have a stake in the Union's strategic targets, which are competitiveness, the encouragement of innovation, climate policy and biodiversity. A constructive approach to the MFF requires that all Member States' nominal budget targets are balanced against the expected benefits of mutually agreed investments in the future. COSAC recalls that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion, including the outermost regions, spending are compatible with these agreed strategic targets.</p> <p><u>SE - RIKSDAGEN</u></p> <p>(2) COSAC observes that all Member States have a stake in the Union's strategic targets, which are competitiveness, the encouragement of innovation, climate policy and biodiversity. A constructive approach to the MFF requires that all Member States' nominal budget targets are balanced against the expected benefits of mutually agreed investments in the future. COSAC recalls that, with proper attention to policy detail, agricultural and cohesion spending are compatible with these agreed strategic targets.</p>
<p>Multi-annual Financial Framework</p> <p>(3) COSAC observes that adoption of the MFF involves finding agreement on a review of the EU's own resources system.</p>	<p><u>SE - RIKSDAGEN</u></p> <p>(3) COSAC observes that adoption of the MFF involves finding agreement on a review of the EU's own resources system.</p> <p><u>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</u> (new paragraph)</p> <p>(3.a) COSAC observes that in order to guarantee adequate resources for the EU's own strategic policies without weighing on the budgets of the Member States, it is also necessary to take fiscal action, in particular in the financial, environmental and digital fields. Cosac observes that UE should be able to decide on certain tax matters by qualified majority.</p>
<p>Multi-annual Financial Framework</p>	<p><u>HU - ORSZÁGGYŰLÉS</u></p>

<p>(4) COSAC stresses the need for new mechanisms to protect the financial interests of the Union when they are jeopardised by disrespect for the rule of law or where there is a systemic threat to the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.</p>	<p>(4) COSAC stresses the need for <u>new objective</u> mechanisms to protect the financial interests of the Union when they are jeopardised by disrespect for the rule of law or where there is a systemic threat to the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.</p> <p><u>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</u></p> <p>(4) COSAC stresses the need for new mechanisms <i>COSAC stresses the need to find a broad consensus for new effective mechanisms</i> to protect the financial interests of the Union when they are jeopardised by disrespect for the rule of law or where there is a systemic threat to the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.</p> <p><u>PL - SEJM</u></p> <p>(4) COSAC stresses the need for new mechanisms to protect the financial interests of the Union when they are jeopardised by disrespect for the rule of law or where there is a systemic threat to the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union <i>in the case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States, provided there is a direct link to the EU budget.</i></p> <p><u>SK - NÁRODNÁ RADA</u></p> <p>(4) COSAC stresses the need for new mechanisms to protect the financial interests of the Union when they are jeopardised by disrespect for the rule of law or where there is a systemic threat to the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. <i>Every new mechanism should respect the framework of the Treaties, should have added value and should not duplicate mechanisms that already exist. COSAC also stresses that mutually respectful dialogue and preventive mechanisms should take precedence over sanction mechanisms.</i></p>
<p>Fundamental Rights and the Rule of Law</p>	<p><u>EL - VOULI TON ELLINON</u></p>

<p>(5) COSAC recalls that 2019 marks the tenth anniversary of the Treaty of Lisbon, and the entry into direct legal effect of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Recalling that the Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, COSAC reaffirms that these values are normative for all European Union policies. The rule of law is, in COSAC's view fundamental to the EU's legitimacy in the eyes of its citizens. COSAC commends the work of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and endorses a strong role for the Agency in ensuring respect for fundamental rights in the regular exercise of the EU's functions.</p>	<p>(5) COSAC recalls that 2019 marks the tenth anniversary of the Treaty of Lisbon, and the entry into direct legal effect of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Recalling that the Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, COSAC reaffirms that these values are normative for all European Union policies. The rule of law is, in COSAC's view fundamental to the EU's legitimacy in the eyes of its citizens. COSAC commends the work of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and endorses a strong role for the Agency in ensuring respect for fundamental rights in the regular exercise of the EU's functions.</p>
<p>Fundamental Rights and the Rule of Law</p> <p>(6) COSAC observes that maintenance of the EU's values requires constant vigilance. COSAC considers that as all Member States have committed, through the Treaty on European Union, to uphold the rule of law, they all should accept transparent and impartial monitoring and peer review of the condition of the rule of law in the Member States. COSAC affirms that where deficiencies in the rule of law affect the functioning of the single market or the implementation of European policies, the Union and its Member States have legitimate grounds for concern and appropriate action.</p>	<p>CY - VOULI TON ANTIPROSOPON</p> <p>(6) COSAC observes that maintenance of the EU's values requires constant vigilance. COSAC considers that as all Member States have committed, through the Treaty on European Union, to uphold the rule of law, they all should accept transparent and impartial monitoring and peer review of the condition of the rule of law in the Member States. <i>This should also apply to all candidate countries, both at this moment and in the future.</i> COSAC affirms that where deficiencies in the rule of law affect the functioning of the single market or the implementation of European policies, the Union and its Member States have legitimate grounds for concern and appropriate action.</p> <p>IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA</p> <p>(6) COSAC observes that maintenance of the EU's values requires constant vigilance. COSAC considers that as all Member States have committed, through the Treaty on European Union, to uphold the rule of law, they all should accept transparent and impartial monitoring and peer review of the condition of the rule of law in the Member States. COSAC affirms that where deficiencies in the rule of law effect <i>jeopardise significantly</i> the functioning of the single market or the implementation of European policies, the Union and its Member States have legitimate grounds for concern and appropriate action</p>

	<p><u>PL - SEJM</u></p> <p>(6) COSAC observes that maintenance of the EU's values requires constant vigilance. COSAC considers that as all Member States have committed, through the Treaty on European Union, to uphold the rule of law, they all should accept transparent and impartial monitoring and peer review of the condition of the rule of law in the Member States <i>in the framework of the Treaties</i>. COSAC affirms that where deficiencies in the rule of law affect the functioning of the single market or the implementation of European policies, the Union and its Member States have legitimate grounds for concern and appropriate action, <i>without prejudice to the principle of conferred competences, as well as the respect of national identities of Member States inherent in their fundamental political and constitutional structures</i>.</p>
<p><u>A Winning Climate Strategy for Europe</u></p> <p>(8) COSAC calls upon the European Commission and the European Council to maintain the EU's established role as a front-runner in climate policy by continuing to play a leading role and to step up the EU's ambition level in global climate policy. COSAC notes with satisfaction the European Council's commitment to climate neutrality, which in COSAC's view should be reinforced by committing to a target date in 2050.</p>	<p><u>EL - VOULI TON ELLINON</u></p> <p>(8) COSAC calls upon the European Commission and the European Council to maintain the EU's established role as a front-runner in climate policy by continuing to play a leading role and to step up the EU's ambition level in global climate policy. COSAC notes with satisfaction the European Council's commitment to climate neutrality, which in COSAC's view should be reinforced by committing to a target date in 2050. <i>Acknowledging that this ambitious transition will bring about deep socioeconomic changes it is important to underline that emphasis should be given to the appropriate tools and mechanisms and in that regard to the strengthening role of the necessary funding in order to address possible fallbacks in areas that will be most affected from the transition to a climate neutral economy.</i></p> <p><u>HU - ORSZÁGGYŰLÉS</u></p> <p>(8) COSAC calls upon the European Commission and the European Council to maintain the EU's established role as a front-runner in climate policy by continuing to play a leading role and to step up the EU's ambition level in global climate policy. COSAC notes with satisfaction the European Council's commitment to climate neutrality, which in COSAC's view should be</p>

reinforced by committing to a target date in 2050 ***and accompanied by adequate financial instruments.***

PL - SEJM

(8) COSAC calls upon the European Commission and the European Council to maintain the EU's established role as a front-runner in climate policy by continuing to play a leading role and to step up ~~the EU's ambition level~~ ***the EU's engagement*** in global climate policy. COSAC notes with satisfaction the European Council's commitment to climate neutrality, ~~which in COSAC's view should be reinforced by committing to a target date in 2050.~~

IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA

(new paragraph)

(8.a) COSAC, in view of reaching the objective of making Europe the first climate-neutral continent in the world by 2050, supports a "Green New Deal" that should be backed up by a strong Investment Plan, at national and European level, able to unlock one trillion Euros over the next decade; Cosac calls on the European Institutions to work within the framework of the European Semester to make sure that the needed investments and reforms are effectively delivered, making the best use of all the flexibility allowed.

FR - ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE

IT - CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI & SENATO DELLA REPUBBLICA

The German Bundestag supports the amendment.

(at the end of the eighth paragraph, add the following sentence)

(8.a) COSAC hopes that the "European Semester" will be reformed to ensure that the economies of the Member States of the Union maintain their course towards the sustainable development objectives set out in the United Nation Agenda 2030.