



Berlin, 18. Februar 2021

**State Secretary**  
**Dr Lorenz Müller**  
Platz der Republik 1  
11011 Berlin  
Tel.: +49 30 227-32990  
Tel.: +49 30 227-36381  
Fax: +49 30 227-36574

**State Secretary**  
**Dr Ute Rettler**  
Leipziger Straße 3-4  
10117 Berlin  
Tel.: +49 30 18 9100-0

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the German Bundestag and the Bundesrat, we are pleased to invite you to the Meeting of the Secretaries-General of the national parliaments of the EU member states and the European Parliament, which will take place on Monday, **29 March 2021**, in the form of a video conference.

We would have liked to welcome you in person to the seat of the German parliament in Berlin. We are nevertheless delighted to host this meeting, which has proved a successful framework for interparliamentary dialogue, as part of the parliamentary dimension of the German Presidency of the Council of the EU. Our agenda will follow the normal format, to prepare the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments in May 2021, discuss IPEX-related issues and present the parliamentary dimension of the Portuguese Presidency.

In the thematic discussion, we would like to address in Session III the particularly topical issues of digitalising parliamentary work in the 21st century, the importance of cyber security, and the use of video conferences as an opportunity for interparliamentary cooperation. In Session IV, we wish to discuss how parliamentary operations can be organised in a sustainable and climate-friendly fashion, in line with the goal of the parliamentary dimension of the current Trio EU-Council Presidency.



Finally, we intend to present the updated report on enhanced interparliamentary cooperation through modern technology, which was already sent to you on 26 January 2021.

We are pleased that we have been able to maintain the planned musical performance as part of our programme and to invite you to a virtual concert on Sunday, 28 March 2021, by the prize-winning Eliot Quartett performing in the plenary chamber of the Bundesrat.

Please find attached the draft programme for this year's Meeting of the Secretaries-General, and for the Troika meeting, along with some technical information concerning the virtual format. You will receive further information on the conference, along with the programme of the Conference of Speakers, in the near future.

We look forward to your participation in the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Lorenz Müller

Dr Ute Rettler