

Plenary Meeting of the LXXI COSAC

24-26 March 2024

European Parliament, Brussels

Draft programme

Last updated: 11 March 2024

Sunday 24 March 2024

Meeting of the Presidential Troika

Belgian Federal Parliament

- 16.15 Departure of the Troika members to the Belgian Federal Parliament
- 16.45 - 18.00 Meeting of the Presidential Troika

Cultural programme and diner

Historical center of Brussels

- 18.00 Departure to the 'Grand Place' of Brussels
- 18.30 - 19.45 Guided tour of the City Hall of Brussels or guided tour of the Belgian Beer World museum (Brussels Stock Exchange) - optional
- 19.45 Departure to the Belgian Federal Parliament
- 20.00 - 22.00 Reception and buffet dinner hosted by the Belgian Federal Parliament
- 22.00 Return to the hotels

Monday 25 March 2024

- 8.20 Opening of the accreditation desks at the European Parliament (Station Europe)

Plenary Meeting of the LXXI COSAC

European Parliament, Hemicycle

- 9.00 Welcome coffee
- 9.30 - 9.45 **Opening session**
- Address by Ms Eliane Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs
 - Address by Mr Gaëtan Van Goidsenhoven, Senator and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs
 - Address by Mr Othmar Karas, First Vice-President of the European Parliament

9.45 - 10.15

Procedural issues and miscellaneous matters

Session chaired by Ms. Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

- Approval of the draft programme of the Plenary Meeting of the LXXI COSAC
- Approval of the 41st Bi-annual Report
- Results of the Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC
- Letters received by the Presidency
- Any other business

10.15 - 12.00

Session I – Review of the 2019-2024 European legislature and prospects for the Council's strategic agenda for 2024-2029

Session chaired by Mr. Van Goidsenhoven, Senator and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

Presentation of the results of the 41st Bi-annual Report – Chapter 1

- Representative of the Belgian federal Government
- Keynote speaker to be confirmed

Debate

12.00 - 12.15

Family picture

12.15 - 14.00

Lunch offered by the Belgian Federal Parliament (Y. Menuhin Area)

12.45 - 13.45

Political group meetings (optional)

14.00 - 16.00

Session II – Gender policy and the representation of women and men in parliament

Session chaired by Ms. Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

Presentation of the results of the 41st Bi-annual Report – Chapter 2

- Keynote speech by Ms Marie-Colline Leroy, Secretary of State for Gender Equality, Equality Opportunities and Diversity
- Keynote speech by Ms Latifa Gahouchi, Senator and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunities for women and men
- Keynote speech by Ms Agnes Hubert, Founding Member of Gender5+ and Professor at the College of Europe
- Keynote speech by Ms Marusa Gortnar, Head of Research and Policy Support Unit at the European Institute for Gender Equality

16.00 Debate
Return to the hotels (except for the heads of delegations)

Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC

European Parliament, Hemicycle

16.15 - 17.30 **Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC**
Session co-chaired by Ms. Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Van Goidsenhoven, Senator, both Co-Chairs of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

Discussion on the Draft Contribution and Conclusions of the LXXI COSAC

17.30 Return to the hotels

Cultural programme and diner

Tour & Taxis

18.15 Departure to Tour & Taxis

19.00 - 20.00 Visit of Tour & Taxis

20.00 - 22.00 Official dinner offered by the Belgian Federal Parliament

22.00 Return to the hotels

Tuesday 26 March 2024

8.00 Departure to the European Parliament

Plenary Meeting of the LXXI COSAC

European Parliament, Hemicycle

8.30 Welcome coffee

9.00 - 10.45 **Session III – Open Strategic Autonomy: competitiveness and resilience**
Session chaired by Mr. Van Goidsenhoven, Senator and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

- Keynote speech by Mr Nicolas Schmit, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights
- Keynote speech by Mr Thierry Breton, European Commissioner for the internal market
- Keynote speech by Mr Marek Hudon, Professor at Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, ULB

Debate

10.45 - 12.30

Session IV – Democracy and the Rule of Law in Europe: the way ahead

Session chaired by Ms. Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

Presentation of the results of the 41st Bi-annual Report – Chapter 3

Keynote speech by Mr Didier Reynders, European Commissioner for Justice

Interactive session with a panel of experts and moderated by M. Rob Heirbaut, journalist specialised in EU matters

Panel:

- Mr Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union
- Ms Françoise Tulkens, Professor emeritus at UCL and former judge and Vice-President at the European Court of Human Rights
- Mr Arnaud Van Waeyenberge, professor at HEC Paris and researcher at Center Perelman on the philosophy of Law

12.30 - 13.00

Closing session

Session co-chaired by Ms. Tillieux, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Van Goidsenhoven, Senator, both Co-Chairs of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs

Adoption of the contribution and conclusions of the LXXI COSAC

Closing statements

13.00 - 14.00

Lunch offered by the Belgian Federal Parliament (Y. Menuhin Area)

14.00

Departure of the delegations