

Warsaw, 16 January 2015

Mr.
Martin Schulz
President of the
European Parliament

Ms.
Ināra Mūrniece
Speaker of the *Saeima* of
the Republic of Latvia

Dear Mr President,
Dear Madam Speaker,

Thank you for the invitation to the meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on the Economic and Financial Governance of the European Union (established pursuant to Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union), combined with the interparliamentary committee meeting devoted to the European Semester Cycles 2014 and 2015 (in the framework of the European Parliamentary Week). The conference under Article 13 is of fundamental importance to us in the context of the discussion on the issues related to the future of economic governance and policy coordination in the EU. We expect an interesting and fruitful debate with the colleagues from the national parliaments and the European Parliament.

At the same time, as – to our disappointment – we have noted, the meeting agenda does not include the rules of procedure for the Conference, despite the fact that many delegations motioned for such item at the last meeting in Rome. This is even more inexplicable in the face of the fact that we are very close to a compromise in this matter. The most recent draft rules of procedure drawn up by the Italian Presidency shall be a good starting point for final decisions. In the most disputable point, related to the conclusions, the draft rules assume that *the Conference may adopt non-binding conclusions by consensus*, which is in accordance with the position of the majority of delegations. What still should be specified are final details, which can be dealt with at the nearest meeting in Brussels. Postponing the decision or passing it on to the forum of the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments (CSEUP) seems to be ungrounded, also having regard to the arrangements made by the CSEUP in Nicosia and Vilnius. The discussion and final arrangements do not imply that Speakers of Parliaments are to define the details related to the rules of procedure of the Conference under Article 13. In accordance with the framework defined by Speakers and a generally accepted interparliamentary practice, decisions on this matter should be taken by the Conference itself.

COURTESY TRANSLATION

A slow response of the European Union to various events is an issue which has been raised many times. How we are supposed to explain to citizens what takes place on the EU forum in terms of actions taken to counteract the consequences of the crisis, if even in such a simple matter as rules of procedure of the Conference we are unable to take a decision.

With the above in mind, we hereby kindly request you to introduce the subject of the rules of procedure to the agenda of the next meeting of the Conference to be held on February 4 this year, so as we would be able to finally adopt the rules.

As representatives of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland participating in the works of the Conference on the Economic and Financial Governance of the European Union we declare our full commitment to reaching the final compromise as regards the rules of procedure.

Yours sincerely,

Agnieszka Pomaska

Chair
of the EU Affairs
Committee

Krystyna Skowrońska

Chair
of the Public Finance
Committee

Wojciech Jasiński

Chair
of the Economic
Committee