



**REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

PRESIDENT

007-07/10-834/16

Ljubljana, 29 March 2011

Mr. André Flahaut
Speaker of the Belgian House of Representatives

Dear Colleague,

Thank you most sincerely for information and proposals you have sent us regarding the forthcoming Conference of European Union Speakers which is to be held on 4 and 5 April. I am pleased that you have included the question of the future parliamentary scrutiny of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU among the key topics of the Conference.

On 14 March, the time limit for bringing forward remarks on the proposal, prepared by the Presidency, expired. In spite of that, I would like to inform you that the joint meeting of the Committee on Foreign Policy of the National Assembly and the Committee on Defence of the National Assembly was held on my initiative on 16 March 2011. At the above joint meeting, the Committees discussed the future parliamentary scrutiny of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU, and took a position on the issue concerned.

With the wish to inform you before the Conference of the position of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia on this topic, I am sending you the Decision adopted by the Committee on Foreign Policy and the Committee on Defence at the joint meeting.

Please accept the assurances of my highest esteem.



Dr Pavel Gantar



20 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

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Decision regarding the question of the future parliamentary scrutiny of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the European Union, adopted at the joint meeting of the National Assembly's Committee on Foreign Policy and the Committee on Defence

Due to the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon redefining the competence of the European Union in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), and given the fact that the European Security and Defence Assembly - the WEU Assembly will cease to operate in 2011, the Committee on Foreign Policy and the Committee on Defence believe that a new mechanism of parliamentary scrutiny in this area should be established.

The Committees agree that it is necessary to proceed with interparliamentary cooperation and the exercise of parliamentary scrutiny in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU, whereby all possibilities under the Treaty of Lisbon and Protocol No. 1 on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union should be used.

The Committees believe that the establishment of a new parliamentary assembly or international body replacing the European Security and Defence Assembly - the Assembly of WEU is not necessary.

In relation to its operation, the Committees advocate as low costs of the work and organisation of its meetings as possible.