

# **The Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments**

## **Bratislava, 24 – 27 May 2007**

### **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

#### **Thursday, 24 May 2007**

Morning/ Afternoon	Arrival of delegations (arranged by the Bureau for the Protection of Constitutional Officials and Diplomatic Missions with the assistance of respective Embassies and the Foreign Relations and Protocol Department of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic)
	Registration of participants in the hotels
Evening	Reserved for Embassies

#### **Friday, 25 May 2007**

Morning	Registration of participants in the hotels and at the National Council of the Slovak Republic
07.30	Departure of the interpreters by minibuses from hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic
08.00	Meeting of interpreters at the Deputies' lounge (room No. 125a, first floor)
08.15	Departure of the Secretaries General by shuttle bus from hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic
Until 8.30	Registration of journalists at the National Council of the Slovak Republic
08.45 – 09.15	Informal briefing for the Secretaries General at the Cinema of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (room No. 11, ground floor)
09.00	Departure of the Speakers of Parliaments and other delegations' members by shuttle buses from hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic



09.30	<p>Opening of the Conference (Plenary Hall, room No. 100, first floor)</p> <p>Opening address by <b>Mr. Pavol Paška</b>, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic</p> <p>Address by <b>Mr. Robert Fico</b>, Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic</p>
10.00 – 12.00	<p><b>Topic I: Future of Europe</b></p> <p>Introduction by <b>Mr. Pavol Paška</b>, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic</p> <p>Report by <b>Mr. Norbert Lammert</b>, Speaker of the German Bundestag</p> <p>Address by <b>Mr. Manuel dos Santos</b>, Vice-President of the European Parliament</p> <p>Address by <b>Mr. Christian Poncelet</b>, Speaker of the French Senate</p> <p>Address by <b>Mrs. Gerdi Verbeet</b>, Speaker of the Dutch House of Representatives</p> <p>Address by <b>Mrs. Yvonne Timmerman-Buck</b>, Speaker of the Dutch Senate</p> <p>Short addresses (See List of Speakers) &amp; Discussion</p>
12.30	Buffet Lunch served on the Western Terrace of Bratislava Castle
14.00	Optional guided tour of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Meeting in the foyer of the National Council)
14.30	<p><b>Topic II: Interparliamentary Cooperation</b></p> <p>Opening address by <b>Mr. Pavol Paška</b>, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic</p> <p>Report by the Working Group to be presented by <b>Mr. Pavol Paška</b>, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic</p>
16.00	Coffee Break
16.30 – 17.30	<p><b>Topic II: Interparliamentary Cooperation</b> to be resumed</p> <p>Short addresses (See List of Speakers) &amp; Discussion</p>
17.40	Departure by shuttle buses from the National Council of the Slovak Republic to hotels
19.10	Departure by shuttle buses from hotels to Bratislava Castle
19.30	Cultural evening and reception at the exterior of Bratislava Castle (Informal)
22.00	Expected end of programme, departure by shuttle buses to hotels

## **Saturday, 26 May 2007**

- 08.45 Departure of the Speakers of Parliaments by shuttle bus from hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- 9.00 Departure of the delegations' members by shuttle bus from hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- 09.30 Family photo of the Speakers of Parliaments on the stairs in front of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (in case of bad weather conditions, the photo session at the ceremonial stairways of the Bratislava Castle)
- 09.45 **Topic III: Raising National European Awareness**  
Introduction by **Mr. Pavol Paška**, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic  
  
Report by **Mr. László Kovács**, EU Commissioner for Taxation and Customs Union  
  
Short addresses (See List of Speakers) & Discussion
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 10.45 **Topic IV: Assistance to Parliaments of New and Emerging Democracies**  
  
Introduction and Task Force report by **Mr. Pavol Paška**, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic  
  
Short addresses (See List of Speakers) & Discussion
- 12.10 Departure of the Speakers and Secretaries General by buses from the National Council of the Slovak Republic to the Historical building of the National Council at Župné námestie
- 12.30 Lunch for the Speakers and Secretaries General hosted by **Mr. Ivan Gašparovic**, President of the Slovak Republic at the Historical building of the National Council at Župné námestie  
  
Buffet lunch for the delegations' members to be served on the Western Terrace of Bratislava castle  
  
Departure of the Speakers and Secretaries General by buses from Župné námestie to the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- 14.00 **Topic V: Ukraine, the Eastern Neighbour of the European Union**  
Introduction by **Mr. Pavol Paška**, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic  
  
Report by **Mr. Oleksandr Moroz**, Speaker of the Supreme Council of Ukraine  
  
Short addresses (See List of Speakers) & Discussion

- 15.30 Conclusion of the Conference
- Concluding address by **Mr. Pavol Paška**, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- 15.45 Press Conference of the Speakers of the enlarged Troika Parliaments at the Cinema of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (room No. 110, ground floor)
- Departure of the Speakers of Parliaments and other delegations' members by shuttle buses from the National Council of the Slovak Republic to hotels
- 16.30 Extraordinary meeting of the Speakers of the **Regional Partnership** countries (room No. 119, tract of the Speaker of the National Council, first floor)
- 17.30 Expected end of the meeting
- Departure of the Speakers of the Regional Partnership Parliaments by shuttle bus from the National Council of the Slovak Republic to hotels
- 18.30 Departure of the Speakers of Parliaments and other delegations' members by shuttle buses from hotels to the Palugyay Palace
- 19.00 Dinner hosted by Mr. Pavol Paška, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic and served in form of reception at the premises of the Historical building of the Palugyay Palace (Informal)
- 21.00 Expected end of dinner
- Departure of the Speakers of Parliaments and other delegations' members by shuttle buses from the Palugyay Palace to hotels

### **Sunday, 27 May 2007**

Morning/  
Afternoon Departure of delegations