

CONFERENCE OF THE SPEAKERS OF EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTS
Rome, 20-21 April 2015

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON STABILITY, ECONOMIC COORDINATION
AND GOVERNANCE IN THE EU

TITLE

German Bundestag and Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania and Polish Sejm

Amendment:

Interparliamentary Conference on Economic and Financial Governance of the European Union.

PREAMBLE First Paragraph

European Parliament

Amendment:

These ~~Rules of Procedure~~ **practical arrangements** are designed to facilitate and improve the work of the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union, hereinafter referred to as the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

These Rules of Procedure are designed to facilitate and improve the work of the Interparliamentary Conference **on Economic and Financial Governance of the European Union, hereinafter referred to as the Interparliamentary Conference on EFG.**

PREAMBLE Second Paragraph

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG** ~~SECG~~ shall be organised in accordance with the decisions of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments taken on 23 April 2013 in Nicosia and on 8 April 2014 in Vilnius to establish a conference foreseen in Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (hereinafter referred to as the TSCG), Protocol 1 of the Treaty of Lisbon on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union and the Guidelines for Interparliamentary Cooperation in the European Union as adopted at the Conference of Speakers on 21 June 2008 in Lisbon.

PREAMBLE Third Paragraph

European Parliament

Amendment:

These ~~Rules of Procedure~~ **practical arrangements** were adopted at the meeting of the ~~Interparliamentary Conference on EFG [SECG] on [...] and deliberated upon by the~~ EU Speakers Conference ~~at the meeting in [...] on [...]~~.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

These Rules of Procedure were adopted at the meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG [SECG]** on [...] and deliberated upon by the EU Speakers Conference at the meeting in [...] on [...].

Hungarian National Assembly

Amendment:

The RoP of the Interparliamentary Conference under Article 13 of TSCG were adopted by the EU Speakers Conference at the meeting in Rome on 20-21 April 2015.

ARTICLE 1.1

German Bundestag

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on EFG shall provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament **on matters of economic and financial governance of the EU and shall maintain a special focus on the budgetary issues and procedures covered by the TSCG and** ~~contribute to ensuring democratic accountability and legitimacy of decision making in the area of~~ **and** ~~[OPTION 1] economic and financial governance [OPTION 2] economic governance and budgetary policy in the EU, particularly in the EMU, taking into account the social dimension,~~ without prejudice to the competences of EU Parliaments.

European Parliament

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and contribute to ~~ensuring~~ **enhancing** democratic accountability ~~and legitimacy~~ in the area of economic governance and budgetary policy in the EU, particularly in the EMU, taking into account the social dimension, without prejudice to ~~the competences of existing competences~~ **and procedures** EU Parliaments.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and contribute to ensuring democratic accountability and legitimacy in the area of ~~economic governance and budgetary policy~~ in the EU, particularly in the EMU, ~~taking into account the social dimension~~, without prejudice to the competences of EU Parliaments.

Irish Parliament

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and contribute to ensuring democratic accountability and legitimacy in the area of economic **stability, coordination**, governance and budgetary policy in the EU, particularly in the EMU, taking into account the social dimension, without prejudice to the competences of EU Parliaments.

ARTICLE 1.2

Polish Sejm

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG** replaces the meetings of the chairpersons of relevant committees organised in the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the Presidency of the Council by **each** national Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency, hereinafter referred to as the Presidency Parliament, **and the European Parliamentary Week of the European Semester organised by the European Parliament in the first semester of each year.**

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

1.2 The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** replaces the meetings of the chairpersons of relevant committees organised in the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the Presidency of the Council by ~~each~~ **the** national Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency, hereinafter referred to as the Presidency Parliament.

ARTICLE 1.3

German Bundestag and European Parliament

Amendment:

~~1.3 The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG may, in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 7 of these Rules of Procedure, adopt conclusions on matters related to the conference's scope.~~

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** may, in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 7 of these Rules of Procedure, adopt conclusions on matters related to the conference's scope. **The Conclusions shall not bind national Parliaments or the European Parliament or and shall not prejudice their positions.**

Hungarian National Assembly

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG may, in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 7 of these Rules of Procedure, adopt conclusions on matters related to the conference's scope. **The Conclusions shall not bind national Parliaments or the European Parliament and shall not prejudice their positions.**

ARTICLE 2.1

German Bundestag

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on EFG SECG shall convene at least twice a year. It shall be coordinated with the cycle of the European Semester. In the first semester of each year, it shall be held in Brussels in **April** and will be co-hosted and co-presided over by the Presidency Parliament and the European Parliament. In the second semester of each year, it shall be held in the Member State holding the Presidency and presided over by the Presidency Parliament. **The conferences shall be clearly distinguishable from other parallel events.**

European Parliament

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall convene twice a year. It shall be coordinated with the cycle of the European Semester. In the first semester of each year, it shall be held in Brussels and will be co-hosted and co-presided over by the Presidency Parliament and the European Parliament. In the second semester of each year, it shall be held in the Member State holding the Presidency and presided over by the Presidency Parliament, **in close cooperation with the European Parliament.**

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall convene **at least** twice a year. It shall be coordinated with the cycle of the European Semester. In the first semester of each year, it shall be held in Brussels and will be co-hosted and co-presided over by the Presidency Parliament and the European Parliament. In the second semester of each year, it shall be held in the Member State holding the Presidency and presided over by the Presidency Parliament.

ARTICLE 2.2

European Parliament

Amendment:

2.2 Presidential ~~Troika~~

~~The Presidential Troika of the Interparliamentary Conference SECC consists of the delegations of the national Parliaments of the Presidency, the preceding Presidency, the following Presidency, and the European Parliament.~~

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Presidential Troika of the Interparliamentary Conference **EFG SECC** consists of the delegations of the national Parliaments of the Presidency, the preceding Presidency, the following Presidency, and the European Parliament.

ARTICLE 2.3

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The hosting Parliament(s) shall be responsible for providing the secretariat. The secretariat of the European Parliament and the co-hosting Presidency Parliament, as well as the hosting Presidency Parliament of the second semester should stay in contact to ensure the continuity of the work of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECC**.

ARTICLE 2.4

European Parliament

Amendment:

At the beginning of each meeting, the presiding Parliament(s) shall set the timetable of the meeting and shall determine the order and the length of interventions. Meetings shall be chaired by the chairperson(s) of the relevant committees of the presiding Parliament(s) **or their representatives**.

ARTICLE 2.5

European Parliament

Amendment:

The secretariat(s) of the presiding Parliament(s) shall prepare the necessary documents and shall draw up **a brief minutes-summary** of the meeting.

ARTICLE 2.5-bis

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Additional article:

2.5-bis Side events

Apart from the plenary meeting, side events, such as topical debates in political groups, working groups or break-out sessions, can be organised in the framework of the

Interparliamentary Conference on EFG, including by Parliaments other than the presiding Parliament(s). Any delegate to the conference may attend and participate in such side events.

ARTICLE 2.6

Hungarian National Assembly

Amendments:

In general the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall seek to take decisions, including on the adoption of the Conclusions, by consensus. If this is not possible, decisions shall be taken with a qualified majority of at least 3/4 of the votes cast. The majority of 3/4 of the votes cast must at the same time constitute at least 2/3 of all votes. The delegations opposing certain parts or points of the text may submit their separate opinion to the Conclusions.

Each Parliament has two votes. In the case of bicameral Parliaments, each Chamber is given one vote.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

In general the Interparliamentary Conference on EFG ~~{SECG}~~ shall seek to take decisions, including on the adoption of the Conclusions, by consensus. If this is not possible, decisions shall be taken with a qualified majority of at least 3/4 of the votes cast. The majority of 3/4 of the votes cast must at the same time constitute at least 2/3 of all votes. Each Parliament has two votes. In the case of bicameral Parliaments, each Chamber is given one vote.

European Parliament

Amendment:

2.6 ~~Voting~~ **Modus operandi**

~~The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall adopt its decisions, including on the adoption of the Conclusions, by consensus.~~

Throughout its workings the Conference shall operate on the basis of the principle of consensus.

Polish Sejm

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary on **EFG** shall adopt its decisions, including on the adoption of the Conclusions by consensus.

ARTICLE 2.7

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Meetings of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG** ~~SECG~~ shall be public, unless otherwise determined.

ARTICLE 3.1

Cyprus House of Representatives

Amendment:

National Parliaments should be represented by a maximum number of six Members of Parliament each. In case of a National Parliament consisting of two Chambers, the number of Members of its delegations shall be allocated according to their internal agreement. The European Parliament shall be represented by a maximum number of sixteen Members. The decision on the composition of delegations should rest upon each Parliament.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** is composed of delegations from the relevant committees of the national Parliaments of the EU Members States and the European Parliament. The composition and size of delegations shall be determined by each Parliament.

ARTICLE 3.2

European Parliament

Amendment:

National Parliaments of EU candidate countries can be represented by a delegation of a maximum of two observers each. The presiding Parliament(s) may also invite, ~~after consulting the Presidential Troika,~~ observers from other EU institutions or bodies as well as from EEA-EFTA countries.

ARTICLE 3.3

European Parliament

Amendment:

The President of the European Council, the President of the Eurogroup and the competent members of the European Commission and other EU Institutions shall be invited to the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG to ~~set out~~ **take part in the discussion of** the priorities and strategies of the EU in the ~~areas being discussed~~ **covered by the Conference.**

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The President of the European Council, the President of the Eurogroup and the competent members of the European Commission and other EU Institutions shall be invited to the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** to set out the priorities and strategies of the EU in the areas being discussed by the Conference.

ARTICLE 3.4

European Parliament

Amendment:

The presiding Parliament(s), ~~after consulting the Presidential Troika,~~ may also invite special guests and experts as observers.

ARTICLE 4.1

European Parliament

Amendment:

~~A draft agenda shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament(s) in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika.~~

With regard to the Conference of the first semester, the agenda shall be drawn up by the Presiding Parliaments. The agenda of the Conference of the second semester shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament in close cooperation with the European Parliament.

~~The Delegations may propose specific items to be put on or deleted from the agenda. to the presiding Parliament(s) that a specific item be put on or removed from the draft agenda.~~

German Bundestag

Amendment:

A draft agenda shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament(s) in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika. The delegations may propose to the presiding Parliament(s) that a specific item be put on or removed from the draft agenda. **The decision on the final agenda shall be made by the Interparliamentary Conference on EFG at the beginning of every meeting.**

ARTICLE 5.1

German Bundestag

Amendment:

The working languages of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be English ~~and~~ French **and German**.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The working languages of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be English and French.

ARTICLE 5.2

German Bundestag

Amendment:

Simultaneous interpretation from and into English, ~~and~~ French **and German** as well as from and into the language of the Presidency Member State shall be provided by the host Parliament(s). Simultaneous interpretation into additional languages may be provided if requested and its costs would be borne by

the relevant national delegation or the European Parliament. The host Parliament will make available the appropriate technical facilities.

ARTICLE 5.3

German Bundestag

Amendment:

Documents of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be communicated to national Parliaments and the European Parliament in English, ~~and~~ French **and German**.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Documents of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be communicated to national Parliaments and the European Parliament in English and French.

ARTICLE 5.4

European Parliament

Amendment:

~~5.4 The Conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be drawn up in a single original in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.~~

German Bundestag

Amendment:

The Conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be drawn up in a single original in English, ~~and~~ French **and German** both texts being equally authentic.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The Conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be drawn up in a single original in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.

ARTICLE 6.1

European Parliament

Amendment:

6. CONCLUSIONS

~~6.1. The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG may adopt non-binding conclusions on matters within the scope of the Conference.~~

German Bundestag

Amendment:

The **presiding Parliament(s)** of the Interparliamentary Conference on EFG may adopt publish non-binding Conclusions **on the outcome of the meeting** ~~on matters within the scope of the Conference.~~

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania and Polish Sejm

Amendment:

The Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** may adopt non-binding conclusions on matters within the scope of the Conference.

ARTICLE 6.2

European Parliament

Amendment:

~~6.2. Draft conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament(s) in English and French, in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika, and communicated to all delegations before the relevant meeting in a reasonable time for any amendments to be considered and submitted.~~

German Bundestag

Amendment:

Draft conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament(s) in English, ~~and~~ French **and German**, in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika, and communicated to all delegations **at least one week before** the relevant meeting ~~in a reasonable time for~~, so any **proposed** amendments could be considered and submitted.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Draft conclusions of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** shall be drawn up by the presiding Parliament(s) in English and French, in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika, and communicated to all delegations before the relevant meeting in a reasonable time for any amendments to be considered and submitted.

ARTICLE 6.3

European Parliament

Amendment:

~~6.3. Once the conclusions have been adopted, the presiding Parliament(s) shall communicate the final texts in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic, to all delegations, to the Presidents of national Parliaments and of the European Parliament, to the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, and the competent Commissioners and members of European Institutions, for their information.~~

German Bundestag

Amendment:

Once the **Presidency** conclusions have been ~~adopted~~ **published**, the presiding Parliament(s) shall communicate the final texts in English ~~and~~ French ~~and~~ **German**, each of these texts being equally authentic, to all delegations, to the Presidents of national Parliaments and of the European Parliament, to the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, and the competent Commissioners and members of European Institutions, for their information.

ARTICLE 7

European Parliament

Amendment:

*7. REVISION OF THE ~~RULES OF PROCEDURE~~ **PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS***

ARTICLE 7.1

European Parliament

Amendment:

Any national Parliament and the European Parliament may submit proposals to amend these **practical arrangements** ~~Rules of Procedure~~. Amendments shall be submitted in writing to all national Parliaments and the European Parliament at least four weeks before meetings of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Any national Parliament and the European Parliament may submit proposals to amend these Rules of Procedure. Amendments shall be submitted in writing to all national Parliaments and the European Parliament at least four weeks before meetings of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG**.

ARTICLE 7.2

European Parliament

Amendment:

Any amendments, which the delegations of national Parliaments or the European Parliament may propose to the ~~Rules of Procedure~~ **practical arrangements**, shall be subject to a decision by consensus by the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG and must be in accordance with the framework set by the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments.

Polish Sejm

Amendment:

~~Any decisions on the Rules of Procedure which the delegations of national Parliaments or the European Parliament may propose~~ shall be subject to a decision by consensus by the

Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG** and must be in accordance with the framework set by the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Any amendments, which the delegations of national Parliaments or the European Parliament may propose to the Rules of Procedure, shall be subject to a decision by consensus by the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** and must be in accordance with the framework set by the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments.

ARTICLE 7.3

European Parliament

Amendment:

Proposals for a revision of the **practical arrangements** ~~Rules of Procedure~~ should be put on the agenda of the first meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG following the presentation of the proposal.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

Proposals for a revision of the Rules of Procedure should be put on the agenda of the first meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** following the presentation of the proposal.

ARTICLE 8.1

Irish Parliament

Amendment:

8.1 The relevant Presidency Parliament shall start in the second semester of ~~2017~~ **2015** an evaluation of the workings of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG**. ~~To this end the Interparliamentary Conference on EFG SECG may appoint an *ad hoc* review committee.~~ The relevant Presidency Parliament shall submit the conclusions of the review together with specific recommendations to be deliberated upon by the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments in ~~2018~~ **2016**. **The workings shall be evaluated at the latest every five years thereafter.**

European Parliament

Amendment:

The relevant Presidency Parliament shall start in the second semester of 2017 an evaluation of the workings of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG. To this end the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG may appoint an *ad hoc* review committee **composed of representatives of national Parliaments and the European Parliament**. The relevant Presidency Parliament shall submit the conclusions of the review together with specific recommendations to be deliberated upon by the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments in 2018.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Amendment:

The relevant Presidency Parliament shall start in the second semester of 2017 an evaluation of the workings of the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG**. To this end the Interparliamentary Conference on **EFG SECG** may appoint an *ad hoc* review committee. The relevant Presidency Parliament shall submit the conclusions of the review together with specific recommendations to be deliberated upon by the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments in 2018.

ARTICLE 9

European Parliament

Amendment:

9. Entry into force of the ~~rules of procedure~~ **Practical Arrangements**

ARTICLE 9.1

European Parliament

Amendment:

These ~~Rules of Procedure~~ **practical arrangements** are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic. Translations into other official languages of the European Union shall be the responsibility of the relevant Parliaments. They shall enter into force on the adoption date.