

Special Committee on Foreign Interference in all Democratic Processes in the European Union, including Disinformation (ING2) The Chair

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Subject: Inter-parliamentary Committee meeting on 1 December 2022 on the legislative resilience, electoral laws or information manipulation campaigns

Dear Colleague,

While in the upcoming months a majority of democracies in the world hold legislative and/or presidential elections, external actors aim to exploit the vulnerabilities of our open societies, to undermine confidence in our institutions and in public discourse, and ultimately to weaken democracies. Malicious foreign actors use information manipulation and other tactics to interfere in democratic processes and they aim to weaken the democratic governance of the targeted countries. These external threats and attacks to democracies worldwide in general and to European democracies in particular have increased over the last decade.

In view of the upcoming national and European elections, it is of strategic importance that European democracies cooperate and coordinate in the face of foreign interference campaigns. Therefore, the ING2 Special Committee of the European Parliament is planning to hold discussions with the Parliaments of EU Member States, which - as flagships for democracy - find themselves at the forefront of this fight.

Hence, ING2 would like to invite Members of the national Parliaments of the EU to attend an Inter-parliamentary Committee meeting on the theme:

"The legislative resilience, electoral laws or information manipulation campaigns"

We are therefore very pleased to invite up to four Members of the corresponding committee(s) of each national Parliament (two from each Chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend this event on Thursday, 1 December 2022, from 09:30-12:30, in the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels.

The purpose of the meeting is to exchange information and best practices on foreign interference related work done at EU, national- and international level, and to gather further insights and expertise on how to address the challenges posed by foreign interference. The meeting would also be a forum for deepening the foreign interference dialogue between the national Parliaments and the European Parliament, by facilitating the exchange of ideas on how to build resilient democracies and on possible responses to actions of foreign interference.

More practical details regarding the meeting will be forwarded in due course to your Parliament's representatives/services responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to accept our invitation and we are looking forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 1 December 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Raphaël Glucksmann