



## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC**

**BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, 28 JULY 2024**

### **PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

CHAIR: Mr Richárd HÖRCSIK, Founding Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs, Hungarian *Országgyűlés*, Mr Péter BALASSA, Vice Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs, Hungarian *Országgyűlés*, and Ms Hajnalka JUHÁSZ, Member of the Committee on European Affairs, Hungarian *Országgyűlés*.

Mr Peter DE ROOVER, Speaker of the Belgian *Kamer van Volksvertegenwoordigers/Chambre des représentants* and Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European affairs;

Mr Jacek WŁOSOWICZ, Deputy Chair of the EU Affairs Committee, Polish *Senat*, and Mr Patryk GABRIEL, Member of the EU Affairs Committee, Polish *Sejm*;

Mr Younous OMARJEE, Vice President, European Parliament.

### **1. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Mr HÖRCSIK welcomed the delegations of the Presidential Troika of COSAC (hereinafter referred to as "the Troika"). He explained that the Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs, Mr Zoltán TESSELY, would join the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC the following day. He then invited the members of the delegations present at the Troika meeting to briefly introduce themselves. Mr DE ROOVER thanked for the invitation and explained that the Belgian *Senaat/Sénat* was in the process of constituting itself following elections and therefore not represented at the meeting. Similarly, Mr OMARJEE, Mr WŁOSOWICZ, and Mr GABRIEL all thanked the Hungarian Presidency for the invitation and expressed their hope for fruitful and constructive cooperation. Ms JUHÁSZ and Mr BALASSA concluded the round of introductions by greeting Troika members.

### **2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC**

Before going through the meeting's agenda Mr HÖRCSIK stressed the need for dialogue among members of COSAC adding that we should all be able to talk to each other. Mr

HÖRCSIK then referred to the [agenda of the Meeting of the Troika](#), previously circulated to all delegations, which was adopted without amendments.

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF COSAC**

Mr HÖRCSIK referred to the draft [Programme of the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC](#). The draft programme was approved without amendments.

### **4. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR THE LXXII COSAC PLENARY MEETING**

Mr HÖRCSIK referred to the draft [Programme for the LXXII COSAC meeting](#), which would take place between 27-29 October 2024, with the next Troika Meeting on the 27th October. He introduced the four main topics of the LXXII COSAC: state of play of the Hungarian Presidency, the ongoing institutional renewal in the EU and 15 years of the Lisbon Treaty, demography and European security and defence. Mr HÖRCSIK informed Troika members of the invitation of the Prime Minister of Hungary, Mr Viktor ORBÁN, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Péter SZIJJÁRTÓ, Executive Vice President of the European Commission, Mr Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ and Vice President of the European Commission, Ms Dubravka ŠUICA. He noted that the European Parliament would be invited to provide a speaker for session III of the programme. Mr OMARJEE welcomed this and reiterated that the European Parliament is available to identify suitable keynote speakers among its Members for the programme to provide an institutional balance. Mr HÖRCSIK noted that the topic of Ukraine could extensively be debated during either or both of the first and the fourth sessions.

### **5. APPROVAL OF THE OUTLINE OF THE 42ND BI-ANNUAL REPORT OF COSAC**

Mr HÖRCSIK referred to the draft [outline of the 42nd Bi-annual Report of COSAC](#), and informed the Troika that the Questionnaire would be sent out later the same week, with a deadline for replies set to 18 September 2024.

### **6. LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENCY**

Mr HÖRCSIK explained that the Presidency had received requests to attend the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC from the the *Kuvendi i Kosovës* of Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, the *Storting* of Norway, the *Assemblée fédérale* of Switzerland, and the *House of Lords* of the United Kingdom. After consultation with the Troika, these requests had been replied to favourably. He also brought the delegations' attention to a letter from Mr Edmunds CEPURĪTIS, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the Latvian *Saeima*. In the letter Mr CEPURĪTIS explained that he withdrew his participation at the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC, in reference to the recent trips the Prime Minister of Hungary, Mr Viktor ORBÁN, had undertaken to i.a. Moscow and Beijing. Mr CEPURĪTIS expressed his concern that the Hungarian *Országgyűlés*

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<sup>1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

had not held the Prime Minister sufficiently to account for this. Mr HÖRCSIK briefly stated to the Troika that the Prime Minister had travelled not as a representative of the EU but as Hungarian Prime Minister, and that he had also informed the European Council of the result of his trips. He furthermore noted that each Parliament/Chamber decides on the composition of its delegation to the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC, and that while we may all have different political views it is generally better to listen to each other. He noted that four or five committee chairs had cancelled their participation.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No further points were raised.