



Meeting of the Secretaries-General of the national parliaments of the EU member states and the European Parliament

Draft programme for video conference, 29 March 2021
(last updated: 22 March 2021)

Sunday, 28 March 2021

19:00 *Virtual concert from the plenary chamber of the Bundesrat*

Welcome:

Dr Ute Rettler, Secretary General of the Bundesrat

Eliot Quartett

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

String quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13

Monday, 29 March 2021

9:00	Meeting of the Secretaries-General of the Troika (Germany, Finland, Slovenia, European Parliament)
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10:00 **Opening of the Meeting of the Secretaries-General of the national parliaments of the EU member states and the European Parliament**

Welcome:

Dr Wolfgang Schäuble, President of the German Bundestag

Introductory remarks:

Dr Lorenz Müller, Secretary-General of the German Bundestag

Dr Ute Rettler, Secretary General of the Bundesrat

Adoption of the agenda

10:20 **Session I: Presentation of the draft programme for the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments**

Introduction:

Dr Lorenz Müller, Secretary-General of the German Bundestag

Debate

10:40 **Presentation of the parliamentary dimension of Portugal's Presidency of the Council of the EU**

Introduction:

Albino de Azevedo Soares, Secretary-General of the Portuguese Assembleia da República

Debate

10:55 **Session II: IPEX**

Introduction:

Maija-Leena Paavola, Secretary-General of the Finnish Eduskunta

- IPEX annual report
- IPEX conclusions

Debate

11:10 Break

11:40 **Session III: Responses to the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic: Digitalisation of parliaments, cyber security and video conferences for inter-parliamentary cooperation**

Introduction:

Dr Lorenz Müller, Secretary-General of the German Bundestag

Speakers:

Klaus Welle, Secretary-General of the European Parliament

Dr Ute Rettler, Secretary General of the Bundesrat

Debate

12:45 Break

13:00 **Session IV: Sustainability and climate-friendliness in parliamentary operations**

Introduction:

Dr Ute Rettler, Secretary General of the Bundesrat

Speaker:

Claes Mårtensson, Deputy Secretary General of the Swedish Riksdag

Debate

13:30 **Reports on interparliamentary cooperation**

- Amended report on enhanced interparliamentary cooperation through modern technology

- Report by the working group on updating the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (IPC) guidelines

13:45 **Other business**

Closing remarks:

Dr Ute Rettler, Secretary General of the Bundesrat

Dr Lorenz Müller, Secretary-General of the German Bundestag

14:00 End of meeting