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PARLAMENT TA' MALTA

(Draft dated 06/12/2016)

DRAFT AGENDA

European Parliamentary Week 2017

- European Semester Conference -

**- Interparliamentary Conference on Stability,
Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union -**

European Parliament

Brussels, 30 January - 1 February 2017

Meeting rooms

- Monday, 30 January 2017 at 15.00 - 17.00 (Hemicycle)
- Monday, 30 January 2017 at 17.00 - 18.30 (Hemicycle)

-Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 9.30 - 13.00 rooms PHS 3C050 / JAN 4Q1 / JAN 6Q2

- Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 15.00 - 16.30 (Hemicycle)
- Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 16.30 - 18.00 (Hemicycle)

- Wednesday, 1 February 2017 at 9.30 - 11.00 (Hemicycle)
- Wednesday, 1 February 2017 at 11.00 - 12.30 (Hemicycle)

Lunch

- Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 13.00-15.00

Cocktail and walking dinner

- Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 18.30

2017 European Semester Conference

Monday, 30 January 2017

10.00 - 15.00 Registration of participants from national Parliaments
Registration desk “Event Participants and Guests”, Altiero Spinelli Building

12.00 - 15.00 Possible timeslot for political group meetings (*Indicative timing. Meetings of the political groups will be organised by the respective group.*)

15.00 - 17.00 **Plenary session: Policy priorities of the 2017 European Semester cycle**
Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Key addresses by

Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-President of the European Commission for the Euro and Social Dialogue (tbc)

Pierre Moscovici, European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs (tbc)

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (tbc)

The purpose of this session is to debate the policy priorities of the 2017 Semester cycle with the European Commission, as set in the Annual Growth Survey, before it is endorsed by the European Council. The outcome of the discussion could be reflected in the dedicated own-initiative reports prepared by the European Parliament

17.00 - 18.30 **Plenary session: EMU redux: How to shape a genuine Economic and Monetary Union?**
Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Key addresses by

The President of the European Parliament

Donald Tusk, President of the European Council and Euro Summit

Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank (tbc)

Jeroen Dijsselbloem, President of the Euro Group (tbc)

Further to the publication of the Five Presidents’ report, the Commission is planning to release in spring 2017 a white paper including measures to complete the EMU. Additional initiatives could be expected in the context of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the treaty of Rome. The purpose of the discussion would be to take stock of the strength and weaknesses of the current economic governance framework and to assess measures that would still be needed in order to provide input to this work from a parliamentary perspective. In particular, what more could be done at the

EU level (e.g. any new own resources and tools) in order to complement national ownership and responsibility.

18.30 - 21.00 Possible timeslot for political group meetings (*Indicative timing. Meetings of the political groups will be organised by the respective group.*)

Tuesday, 31 January 2017

9.30 - 13.00 **Interparliamentary committee meetings (in parallel)**

1) Interparliamentary committee meeting organised by the **Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON)**:

Meeting room: PHS 3C050 (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Topics:

- Session 1: Panama Papers, Bahamas leaks: which follow-up did national Parliaments give to the revelations? Which lessons can be learned?
- Session 2: Banking Union, Capital Markets Union and the EU Single Market for financial services

2) Interparliamentary committee meeting organised by the **Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)**:

Meeting room: JAN 4Q1 (József Antall Building, 4th floor)

Topics:

- Session 1: The mobility of workers and the importance of labour migration
- Session 2: European Pillar of Social Rights - next steps after the consultation

3) Interparliamentary committee meeting organised by the **Committee on Budgets (BUDG)**:

Meeting room: JAN 6Q2 (József Antall Building, 6th floor)

Topics:

- Session 1: More transparent, simple, fair and democratically accountable ways to finance the EU - Follow up of the final recommendations of the high-level group on own resources
- Session 2: The reform of the EU Financial Regulation for improving the implementation of multiannual programmes

13.00 - 15.00 **Lunch buffet**

Espace Yehudi Menuhin (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 1st floor)

13.00 - 15.00 Possible timeslot for political group meetings (*Indicative timing. Meetings of the political groups will be organised by the respective group.*)

Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union

Tuesday, 31 January 2017

15.00 - 16.30 **Plenary session: Stocktaking of the implementation of the “Fiscal compact”: Exchange of views on best practices**

Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Opening by the President of the European Parliament and **Angelo Farrugia**,
Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malta

Co-chaired by the European Parliament and the House of Representatives of
Malta

Key addresses by

Jeroen Dijsselbloem, President of the Euro Group (tbc)

Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-President of the European Commission for the
Euro and Social Dialogue (tbc)

Pierre Moscovici, European Commissioner for Economic and Financial
Affairs, Taxation and Customs (tbc)

Member(s) of a national Parliament

*The Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and
Monetary Union foresees in its Article 16 that: “Within five years, at most,
of the date of entry into force of this Treaty, on the basis of an assessment of
the experience with its implementation, the necessary steps shall be taken, in
accordance with the Treaty on the European Union and the Treaty on the
Functioning of the European Union, with the aim of incorporating the
substance of this Treaty into the legal framework of the European Union.”
As this deadline is set to end 2017, it is important to assess the
implementation of the fiscal compact and the measures to be adopted to
incorporate its provisions into the EU legal framework.*

16.30 - 18.00 **Plenary session: Towards a more comprehensive and coordinated social
dimension in the EMU: Exchange of views**

Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Co-chaired by the European Parliament and the House of Representatives of
Malta

Key addresses by

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social
Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (tbc)

Georges Dassis, President of the European Economic and Social Committee (tbc)

Rudy De Leeuw, President of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) (tbc)

Emma Marcegaglia, President of BusinessEurope (tbc)

The Commission launched on 8 March 2016 a consultation with the aim:

- *To make an assessment of the present EU social "acquis": Which existing rights are practiced and remain relevant for today's and tomorrow's challenges? Should we consider new ways to deliver on these rights?*
- *To reflect on new trends in work patterns and societies: What has been the impact of new technologies, demographic trends and other factors on our working life and social conditions? Which best practices and lessons from social innovation should be actively encouraged?*
- *To gather views and get feedback on the outline of the European Pillar of Social Rights itself and help Member States outside the euro area to determine whether to opt in: What will be the role, scope and content of the Pillar as part of the social dimension of EMU? What are the euro area's needs? What are the challenges related to the principles put forward under the Pillar?*

The consultation process should be concluded by 31 December 2016 and will constitute the basis for the new Commission's final proposal for the Pillar to be delivered in early 2017.

18.30

Cocktail and walking Dinner (by invitation only)

Espace Yehudi Menuhin (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 1st floor)

Wednesday, 1 February 2017

9.30 - 11.00

Plenary session: Towards benchmarking of national reforms fostering sustainable growth and jobs: Exchange of views on best practises

Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Co-chaired by the European Parliament and the House of Representatives of Malta

Key addresses by

Angel Gurría, Secretary General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (tbc)

Mario Vella, Chairman of the Central Bank of Malta (tbc)

The implementation of reforms and measures to foster growth and jobs across the EU is still rather heterogeneous and a lack of coordination sometimes materializes among Member States. The Eurogroup has undertaken to benchmark national reforms and, when possible, establish best practices in order to facilitate reforms to be debated at national level. In the context of Article 9 of the fiscal compact it would be worthwhile to

explore how to further enhance cooperation and sharing of best practices among national Parliaments to deliver structural reforms for growth and jobs.

11.00-12.30 **Plenary session: The role of financial assistance programmes and the European Stability Mechanism in safeguarding the stability of the euro: Exchange of views**

Meeting room: Hemicycle (Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 3rd floor)

Co-chaired by the European Parliament and the House of Representatives of Malta

Key addresses by

Edward Scicluna, President of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) (tbc)

Klaus Regling, Managing Director of the European Stability Mechanism (tbc)

Member of a national Parliament

At its annual meeting in autumn 2016 the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) agreed to start an evaluation process of former stability support programmes to carefully examine the financial support provided in past programmes and to draw lessons from them with the aim of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness in the future. It also decided to publish more programme-related documents. Today Cyprus, Ireland, Portugal and Spain are subject to post-programme surveillance by the Commission, while Greece is still subject to its third macro-economic adjustment programme: the ESM is by far the largest creditor to Greece, with more than €160 billion disbursed from the EFSF and the ESM.