Pre-Accession Actions Unit

Inter-parliamentary Seminar
Organised in cooperation with the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Affairs

DEVELOPING POLITICAL CULTURE
AND ENHANCING POLITICAL DIALOGUE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY

with Members of the European Parliament and Members of Parliament of EU Pre-Accession Countries

Brussels
23 – 24 March 2015

European Parliament, Altiero Spinelli Building, Room SE2

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FINAL PROGRAMME

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Monday 23 March 2015

In the Chair: Ms Danuta Hübner, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

14:30 – 15:00 Arrivals and registration
Espace Simone Veil Agora entrance
Ms Sabine Hoffmann, Assistant, Pre-Accession Actions Unit (DG EXPO)

15:00 – 15:20 Keynote speech by Ms Danuta Hübner, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

15:20 – 16:15 Power culture in Parliament: critical support vs. constructive opposition
Mr Alojz Peterle, MEP, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Mr Richard Corbett, MEP, Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs
Questions and debate

16:15 – 16:40 Break

16:40 – 17:25 Rules of procedure and cooperation between political groups
Mr Rainer Wieland, MEP, Chair of the Working Group on Rules of procedure of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament
Mr Antony Beumer, Deputy Secretary-General for External Affairs of S&D political group
Questions and debate

17:25 – 18:40 Open dialogue and engagement with the citizens
Mr György Schöpflin, MEP, Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs
Ms Jasna Jelisić, Political Advisor, European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Andris Kesteris, Principal Advisor for Civil Society and Media, European Commission, DG NEAR
Questions and debate
**Tuesday 24 March 2015**

*In the Chair: Mr Elmar Brok, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs*

08:45  |  *Arrival of the participants*

09:00 – 09:15  |  *Keynote speech by Mr Elmar Brok, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs*

09:15 – 10:20  |  *The role of parliamentarians and their parties in the reform process towards EU integration*
*Mr Ranko Krivokapić, President of the Parliament of Montenegro*
*Mr Andrej Plenković, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs*
*Mr Cristian Dan Preda, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights, Rapporteur on Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Committee on Foreign Affairs*

Questions and debate

10:20 – 10:40  |  *The tools of an assertive Parliament: professional support for the legislative cycle and democratic scrutiny*
*Mr Klaus Welle, Secretary-General of the European Parliament*

10:40 – 11:00  |  *Break*

11:50 – 12:20  |  *Dealing with current and recent cases of parliamentary stand-offs in the region*
*Mr Eduard Kukan, MEP, Chair of the Working Group on the Western Balkan of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee*
*Mr Knut Fleckenstein, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament, Rapporteur on Albania for the Committee on Foreign Affairs*
*Mr Ivo Vajgj, MEP, Rapporteur on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for the Committee on Foreign Affairs*

General debate

12:20 – 12:30  |  *Conclusions and recommendations*

12:30 – 14:00  |  *Lunch hosted by Ms Ulrike Lunacek, MEP, Vice-President of the European Parliament on behalf of Mr Martin Schulz, MEP, President of the European Parliament* (Presidential dining room, Paul-Henri Spaak building, 12th floor) *(On invitation)*

*End of the seminar*