BULLETIN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS IN THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

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The European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament Bulletin is published monthly by the European Affairs Department. The Bulletin provides an overview of the Parliament's work related to European affairs and arising from the membership of the Republic of Croatia in the European Union.

The Croatian Parliament, as the national parliament of an EU member state, participates in the decision-making process at the European level by overseeing the activities of the Government in the European Union institutions and by exercising the powers conferred on national parliaments by the Lisbon Treaty.

Activities of the European Affairs Committee

The Committee for European Affairs carries out European affairs in accordance with the Act on the Cooperation of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia in European Affairs and the Rules of Procedure of the Croatian Parliament.

At the 2nd session of the Committee, held on 20 August 2024, Committee discussed the Report of the Government of the Republic of Croatia on the candidate of the Republic of Croatia for the member of the European Commission, in the term of office from 2024 to 2029. The session was held in accordance with Article 11 of the Act on the cooperation of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia in European affairs, which regulates parliamentary supervision of the Government's actions in the process of nominating candidates of the Republic of Croatia for the European Commission, the Court, the General Court, the Court of Auditors and the Management Committee of the European Investment Bank. In a report on a candidate submitted to the Parliament, Government proposes a candidate from Croatia for an institution or body of the European Union. After hearing the candidate, the Committee for European Affairs issues an opinion on the Government's report, which Government must take into account when adopting the final decision on the candidate. If the Government does not accept the Committee's opinion, it informs the Parliament in writing, along with an explanation.

The Report on the candidate of the Republic of Croatia was introduced by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Andrej Plenković, highlighting the previous work of Dubravka Šuica as Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of democracy and demography, areas that have proven to be of key importance for the European Union. In her presentation, the Vice-President of the Commission referred to the most important projects she worked on in the

current mandate, as well as expectations from the next mandate period. After the discussion, the Committee for European Affairs <u>accepted</u> the Report on the candidate of the Republic of Croatia for a member of the European Commission in the term of office from 2024 to 2029 by a majority of votes, thereby supporting the candidacy of Dubravka Šuica for a new mandate in the Commission. Taking into account the Committee's opinion, the Government will make a final decision on the candidate, which will be followed by an interview with the President of the Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, and a hearing in the competent committee of the European Parliament. The appointment of the new European Commission is expected during October in the European Parliament.

EU documents forwarded directly to the Croatian Parliament

Pursuant to the Protocol (no. 1) on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union, all draft legislative acts and communications are forwarded directly to national parliaments.

The Croatian Parliament publishes daily the received EU documents, along with information on the reference code assigned to each document, the applicable adoption procedure, its submission date and the timeframe for carrying out the subsidiarity check.

In August 2024, the EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament <u>30 documents</u>: 21 draft legislative acts, and 9 communications and other non-binding documents.

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