



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

In December 2022, the Committee held five sessions:

At its 51st session, held on December 2, the Committee discussed and reached conclusions on four positions from the Work Program for consideration of the position of the Republic of Croatia for 2021.

At its 52nd session, joint with the Committee for Regional Development and Funds of the European Union, held on December 6, the Chairman of the Committee for Regional Development (REGI) of the European Parliament, Younous Omarjee, presented the Resolution of the European Parliament of June 7, 2022 on islands and cohesion policy: current state and future challenges.

In the Resolution, the European Parliament recognizes isolation as a permanent structural disadvantage of the European islands and notes that for this reason it is necessary to develop integration strategies to enable the islands to face the challenges and overcome the obstacles caused by their isolation.

It was especially emphasized that the European islands, although they face common challenges, differ in terms of geographical features and institutional structure, which means that it is crucial to adopt flexible solutions that consider these particularities.

The resolution expresses regret for the lack of an EU vision for European islands and calls for the development of a European vision for islands and for the maximum exploitation of the islands' advantages, and in this sense calls on the European Commission to carry out a dynamic assessment of Article 174 of the TFEU and to design a truly the European Islands Program and develop a European Island Strategy based on this report, which is in line with local needs and circumstances on the ground and which would take into account the specificities of all EU sea basins. Also, the Resolution calls on the Commission to conduct a study on the various

conditions of the island territories and to consider a strategy for the islands with concrete proposals.

The session was broadcast on the YouTube channel of the Croatian Parliament, where a recording of the session is also available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0y2HIkk7JzI>.

At its 53rd session, held on December 9, the Committee discussed and reached conclusions on two positions from the Work Program for consideration of the position of the Republic of Croatia for 2021.

At its 54th session, held on December 15, the Committee discussed and reached conclusions on four positions from the Work Program for consideration of the position of the Republic of Croatia for 2021.

At its 55th session, joint with the Committee for Foreign Policy, held on December 15, the Committee discussed the Report of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council and the General Affairs Council, held in November and December.

*Monitoring the work of the Government in the European Union
institutions*

In December 2022, the Croatian Government submitted to the relevant parliamentary committees its positions for 11 Council meetings:

- 3915 Competitiveness Council (Internal market and Industry)
- 3915-1 Competitiveness Council (Research and Space)
- 3917 and 3917-1 Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council
- 3918 Economic and Financial Council
- 3919 Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Protection Council
- 3919-1 Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Protection Council
- 3920 Justice and Home Affairs Council
- 3921 Agriculture and Fisheries Council
- 3922 Foreign Affairs Council
- 3923 General Affairs Council
- 3924 Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council
- 3925 Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council
- 3926 Environment Council

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 on a daily basis the EU documents received, 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 December 2022, the EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament 50 documents: 18 draft legislative acts, and 32 communications and other non-binding documents.

In 2022, the EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament 652 documents: 365 draft legislative acts, and 287 communications and other non-binding documents.