

The “European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament” bulletin is published monthly by the European Affairs Department. It provides the reader with an overview of parliamentary activities in the field of EU affairs and inter-parliamentary cooperation as well as with access to EU documents forwarded to national parliaments.

### In Focus

#### Annual Report 2019 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and on relation with national parliaments

This is the 27<sup>th</sup> report on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, submitted under Article 9 of Protocol No 2 to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Like the 26<sup>th</sup> report, the report also covers the Commission’s relations with national Parliaments, which play a major role in applying the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

In 2019, the Commission took a number of steps to follow-up on the recommendations made by the Task Force on Subsidiarity, Proportionality and ‘Doing less more efficiently’. 2019 was a transition year between two mandates of the Commission, with fewer Commission initiatives and legislative proposals than in previous years. Consequently, the volume of work for national Parliaments in the context of the subsidiarity control mechanism and the political dialogue with the Commission temporarily decreased. The Commission received 159 opinions, none of which were reasoned opinions.

2019 was the first year since the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon in which national Parliaments sent no reasoned opinion to the Commission. Of the other types of opinions sent by national Parliaments, 75% concerned non-legislative Commission initiatives or were own-initiative opinions. This clearly shows the interest national Parliaments have in providing forward-looking political input to the Commission early in the decision-making process.

In 2019, Members of the Commission continued to engage with national Parliaments in regular debates, which have a crucial role to play in bringing the EU closer to its citizens.

#### **EU documents Forwarded Directly to the Croatian Parliament**

According to the Protocol (no 1) on the Role of the National Parliaments in the European Union, all draft laws and communications shall be forwarded directly to the national parliaments.

The Croatian Parliament publishes on a daily basis the EU documents received, along with the information on: document number, adoption procedure, transmission date and subsidiarity deadline.

In August 2020, EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament [54 documents](#): 30 draft laws and 24 communications and other non-binding documents.



## Inter-parliamentary Cooperation in the European Union

Inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union encompasses the cooperation between the European Parliament and the national parliaments and the cooperation among the national parliaments in the frame of the parliamentary dimension of the Council Presidency.

### Inter-parliamentary activities in September 2020

<b>4 September</b>	Inter-parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and Common Security and Defence Policy (Berlin, video conference)
<b>7 September</b>	Conference of the Chairpersons of committees on health, research and digital affairs “Europe in pandemic: research and innovation for a more resilient health system” (Berlin, video conference)
<b>14 September</b>	Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) (Berlin, video conference)
<b>28 - 29 September</b>	Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group of Europol (Brussels, video conference)

