## BULLETIN

# **European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament**

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

# EU joint response to the COVID-19 outbreak

As part of the EU's joint response to the COVID-19 outbreak, European Parliament and Council adopted three urgent proposals. The first urgent measures to help people and businesses tackle the crisis were voted on in the European parliament plenary less than two weeks after the Commission tabled its proposals.

The **Corona Response Investment Initiative**. These measures are meant to channel  $\in$ 37 billion from available EU funds as soon as possible to citizens, regions and countries hit the hardest by the Coronavirus pandemic. The funds will be directed towards healthcare systems, SMEs, labour markets and other vulnerable parts of EU member states' economies.

The extension of the EU Solidarity Fund to cover public health emergencies. The measures will make up to €800 million available for European countries in 2020. Operations eligible under the Fund will be extended to include support in a major public health emergency, including medical assistance, as well as measures to prevent, monitor or control the spread of diseases.

**Temporarily suspending EU rules on airport slots**. This will stop air carriers from operating empty flights during the pandemic. The temporary suspension means that airlines are not obliged to use their planned take-off and landing slots to keep them in the next corresponding season. The 'use it or lose it' rule will be waived for the whole summer season, from 29 March until 24 October 2020.

## **Activities of the Croatian Parliament in the Decision-Making Process**

#### Application of EU law

In March, Croatian Parliament enacted 1 law in the process of implementation of European law.

## **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 March 2020, EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament <u>39 documents</u>: 15 draft laws, 24 communications and other non-binding documents.



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#### **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.

All conferences, meetings and other activities that take place in the framework of inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union are not held until further notice due to the situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



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