



FRANS TIMMERMANS
First Vice-President

*Brussels,
Ares(2015)*

Dear Chairperson,

This European Commission is firmly committed to forging a new partnership with national parliaments – by renewing the existing political dialogue, but also through more frequent and frank direct contacts and regular exchanges in capitals.

The Commission is always ready to take good note of and discuss all constructive suggestions from stakeholders, including ideas from any national parliament which feels that there are areas where the European Union could add value and address citizens' concerns through more action in a specific policy area. This is also very relevant to helping deepen a common understanding of subsidiarity.

If there are areas where national parliaments feel that the European Union could bring real added value yet has not sufficiently addressed, I would hope these would be raised during our regular discussions at COSAC as well as in direct contacts between Commissioners and national parliaments. If national parliaments identify such issues, it is because they are reflecting the concerns they are hearing from citizens, and I hope you would agree that rather than entering into a potentially lengthy and complex discussion on procedures and new institutional arrangements not foreseen by the Treaty, we should try to address this in a very pragmatic and immediate way.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Lolita ČIGĀNE
Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee
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