



ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ ПАРЛАМЕНТ PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
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Committee on Budgets
The Chairman

To the Chair of the Committee concerned

Subject: Invitation to an inter-parliamentary debate between on Budgets committees on the financing of the Europe 2020 Strategy in the framework of the European Semester

Dear Chair, dear colleague,

As a consequence of the economic crisis, European leaders decided to considerably reinforce the coordination of budgetary policies within the Union. This is the aim of a new procedure, the so called "European Semester", which began on 12 January this year with the presentation of the Annual Growth Survey by the European Commission.

Nevertheless, many practical details of the new procedure remain to be defined. In particular, the exact role of Parliaments has not yet been clearly established. Several national Parliaments have expressed their surprise at this omission and have suggested an exchange of views on the practicalities of parliamentary intervention in an area which is at the heart of their competences.

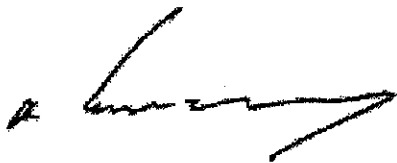
In this context, the European Parliament's committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs has already organised a first exchange of view with corresponding committees in national parliaments for 15 March next. This meeting will cover the question of economic governance and in particular the new budgetary discipline. An invitation to this meeting has already been addressed to national Parliaments' committees by the committee Chair Sharon Bowles.

On behalf of the committee on Budgets, I now have the honour to invite you to a second exchange of views which will take place on 13 April from 15h00 to 18h30 in the European Parliament in Brussels. This will focus on the other strand of budgetary coordination, i.e. the financing of future policies which are essential to return to growth and in particular those linked to the Europe 2020 Strategy.

As is customary, the present invitation is open to four Members of the competent committees of each parliamentary Assembly (two for each Chamber in case of bicameral parliaments).

The draft programme of the meeting and more detailed practical information for the event will be forwarded to you shortly.

I look forward to personally welcoming you in April and to a fruitful debate.
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alain Lamassoure', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Alain Lamassoure

**COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY MEETING WITH NATIONAL
PARLIAMENTS**

**13 APRIL 2011
15h00 - 18h30**

Joszef Antall (JAN) building, Room Q202

Draft agenda

**European Semester 2011:
how to coordinate EU and national budgets?**

- 15.00 - 15.20 Opening of the meeting by Mr Alain Lamassoure, Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets
- 15.20 - 15.40 Priorities for the EU Budget 2012 presented by Ms. Francesca Balzani, General Rapporteur for the EU Budget 2012
- 15.40 - 18.00 Discussion with national Parliament of their budget priorities with particular reference to common European objectives and, in particular, the Europe 2020 Strategy
- (The actual format for this discussion will be defined closer to the meeting)*
- 18.00 - 18.20 Conclusions of the debate
- 18.20 - 18.30 Closing remarks by Mr Alain Lamassoure, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets
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