
FOLKETINGET



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Dear Anna,

Firstly let me thank you for the invitation to attend the COSAC Chairpersons' meeting in Stockholm on 5-6 July and for having prepared such an excellent programme for us.

Unfortunately I'm not able to participate because of an urgent domestic matter. However the Vice-Chairman of the European Affairs Committee, Mr. Henrik Høegh, will attend the meeting.

Secondly, may I on behalf the Folketing's European Affairs Committee express my support for your decision of addressing the question of openness and transparency in the Council during your EU-Presidency.

We have, as parliamentarians, a special responsibility, when it comes to holding our own governments accountable, vis-à-vis their participation in European Union decision-making.

Full and timely access to Council documents is a crucial precondition for being able to conduct effective parliamentary scrutiny of EU-matters.

And I believe accessibility of EU documents is an issue where we can learn a lot from each other in national parliaments by exchanging best practises. However, there is only very scattered knowledge available of what the state of the art is in Member States in this regard. As you probably remember we also discussed this issue during our visit in Stockholm in April this year.

Do you therefore think it would be possible in COSAC's next biannual report to examine more closely the different (best) practises of national parliaments regarding their access to Council documents received from governments?

I hope to see you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,


Svend Auken

Chairman of the European Affairs Committee

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