



**European Council**  
Cabinet of the President

SES 21 / 001239

Brussels, 10. 03. 2021  
CAB PEC/SC/sg

Dear Mr Capoulas Santos,

On behalf of President Michel, I wish to thank you for your letter of 19 February, in which you reiterate the importance of the involvement of national parliaments in the organisation of the Conference on the Future of Europe.

President Michel believes that the role of national parliaments is indeed crucial to the Conference, in particular to ensure that the views of citizens and stakeholders, particularly through debates at national and regional level, are showcased and effectively relayed to the Conference's decision-making structures.

The Council's position on the Conference attests to the importance it gives to the role of national parliaments. The latter are referred to numerous times in the text, highlighting not only the need for national parliaments to participate in the Conference, but also for their close association in the Conference's governance structures.

In addition, President Michel believes that your vast experience in involving stakeholders and reaching out to citizens for policy debates and exchanges is invaluable in the context of the Conference's future work.

The final details of the Conference are still, at the time of writing, to be settled in a Joint Declaration to be agreed by the Presidents of the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission. Negotiations are being led by the Portuguese Presidency, and I am confident that the national parliaments will be given the significant role they merit.

Yours sincerely,

**Frédéric BERNARD**  
Head of Cabinet

**Mr Louis CAPOULAS SANTOS**  
Chair of the European Affairs Committee  
Assembleia da República  
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cc: co-signatories

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