

have been launched and 135 parliamentary standpoints have been elaborated by the Committee. In the cases of subsidiarity checks under Protocol No. 2 attached to the Treaties, the Committee has exclusive right to launch a procedure and to propose the plenary to adopt the so-called reasoned opinion. So far, fourteen reasoned opinions have been adopted by the plenary. International activities represent another aspect of the Committee's work, both on bilateral and multilateral levels. The Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) constitutes the most regular forum for interparliamentary exchange. The COSAC delegation of the Hungarian National Assembly has been made up from Committee members ever time since 1997. The Committee members actively take part in different interparliamentary events organised by the European Parliament. In the past 20 years the meetings of the European Affairs Committees of the V4 countries have been the most regular form of regional interparliamentary cooperation. Bilateral visits and delegations take place on a more ad-hoc basis.

Editor in charge: László Juhász
 Author and editor: Csaba Gergely Tamás
 Photo: Dávid Pólya-Pető



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Speech of Committee Chair, Mr Zoltán Tessely at the Plenary Meeting of the LXXI COSAC, Brussels, March 2024



Visit of the Delegations of the Committee on European Affairs of the Hungarian National Assembly and the Permanent Subcommittee on EU Affairs of the National Council of the Austrian Parliament at the Greek-Turkish land border, Evros, March 2024

COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



GREETINGS OF THE CHAIR



The Committee on European Affairs (hereinafter: the Committee) was established in 1992, as firstly set up committee in Central and Eastern Europe. Pursuant to the provisions of Act XXXVI of 2012 on the National Assembly, the Committee is vested with decision-making power in certain EU related procedures. In the framework of the scrutiny procedure, the standpoint regarding the negotiation position represented by the Government in the EU Council is scrutinised and elaborated by the Committee on behalf of the Hungarian National Assembly. The Treaty of Lisbon provided new opportunities for EU national Parliaments concerning the examination of EU draft legislative acts from the viewpoint of the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, thus linking national Parliaments to EU decision-making.

In the second half of 2024, Hungary holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the second time. Due to the institutional renewal and transition of the EU, the current Presidency takes place at a special time characterised by strategic discussions and political decisions rather than traditional EU legislative tasks. Our fundamental objective is to make Europe Great Again and to reach peace.

Zoltán Tessely
(Fidesz) Chairman

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



Tamás Menczer (Fidesz) Vice Chairman Balázs Barkóczy (DK) Vice Chairman Péter Balassa (Jobbik) Vice Chairman



Dr. Richárd Höresik (Fidesz) Gábor Riz (Fidesz)



Hajnalka Juhász (KDNP) András Fekete-Győr (Momentum)



Participants of the Meeting of the Committees on European Affairs of the Visegrád Countries, Budapest, April 2023

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee works as a multifunctional committee with horizontal responsibility for EU affairs.

Currently, the Committee has 8 members and has three Vice Chairmen, one from the governing and two from the opposition parties.

The Committee carries out traditional tasks of a standing committee by taking part in the legislative process: deliberation of the annual central budget bill and more significant EU related bills, or certain bills aiming at the legal transposition of EU law.

In its EU related activities, the Committee regularly organises hearings and reports on current EU issues. The Ministers responsible for EU portfolios must appear at least annually before the Committee for a hearing.

Another type of hearing is the briefing of the Committee on the outcome of European Council meetings with the participation of the Minister for European Union Affairs. A further kind of hearing concerns the meeting with the Ambassador representing the country holding the EU Presidency. Most recently the Belgian Ambassador informed the Committee in April. The Committee also organises in camera meetings for Hungarian Ambassador candidates to European countries.

The Members of the European Parliament from Hungary are entitled to take part at all Committee meetings and they often take the floor.

The Committee is authorised by the Act on the National Assembly to hear the candidates of the Government to the European Commission, the Court of Justice, the General Court and the Court of Auditors.

The two most important and special tasks of the Committee are the scrutiny procedures and the subsidiarity checks. In the scrutiny procedure, the Committee plays a central role since all stages of the procedure fall under the scope of the Committee. Since 2004 nearly 230 scrutiny procedures