



HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Hungarian Presidency 2013-2014 of the
VISEGRAD GROUP

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING **ON THE PARLIAMENTARY DIMENSION OF V4 COOPERATION**

adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committees of the V4 Parliaments

Visegrád, 30 January 2014

One of the priorities of Hungary's V4 Presidency is to foster cooperation amongst the members of the Visegrád Group. Participants of the meeting exchanged views on the proposals of the Chair of the Hungarian Committee on Foreign Affairs aimed at a stronger cooperation of V4 Parliaments. As a result, the delegations present the following joint proposal to the Speakers of V4 Parliaments, in order to strengthen the V4 parliamentary dimension. The main goal of the new concept is to build stronger relations among the parliaments of these countries and to provide for professional consultations of the specialized committees on strategic issues. The new framework of parliamentary cooperation would act in synergy with the already existing practice of Speakers' and committee meetings.

The main pillars of the concept are as follows:

- The committees on European affairs should continue to meet once every six months.
- Meetings in the framework of the new parliamentary dimension should be held once a year, one day prior to the Speakers' meeting, in the country that holds the rotating presidency of the V4 cooperation.
- Prioritized areas of the new parliamentary cooperation should be foreign and defence policy, as well as economic and regional development issues.
- Delegations should comprise 10 MPs from each country, at least two members from each committee.
- It is at the host country's discretion to invite MPs from additional committees, but the number of delegates (MPs) from each country should not exceed 10.
- In the first part of the conference, the delegates should meet in sections according to policy areas. The specialized meetings should be followed by a plenary session of all 40 delegates, to which the chairpersons of the European Affairs Committees should also be invited.
- The plenary session should be chaired by the chairperson of the host country's foreign affairs committee, who is to inform the Speakers' Conference about the adopted proposals the next day. After discussing the proposals, the Speakers should adopt a memorandum with general consensus.
- At the meetings, in accordance with the practice of the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, the host country provides the technical background of interpretation and

interpretation to English, while the delegations of the partner parliaments arrange interpreting to their mother tongues. Delegations are to cover their own accommodation and transportation costs.

- The signatories shall forward this Memorandum of Understanding to the Speakers of their parliaments.

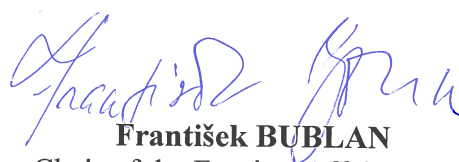
The participants agree that this Memorandum of Understanding shall be sent to the Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly who shall present it at the Parliamentary Speakers' conference of V4 countries to be held in Budapest on 27-28 February for further deliberation and approval.

Signatories:



Jana FISCHEROVÁ

Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the
Czech Republic



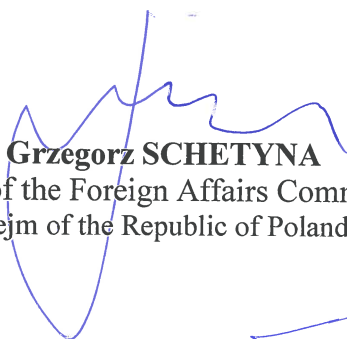
František BUBLAN

Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic



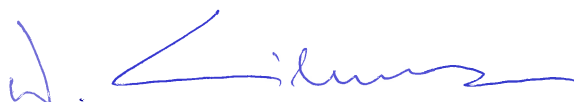
BALLA Mihály

Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
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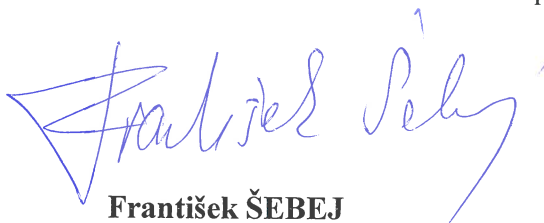
Grzegorz SCHETYNA

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