

Meeting of the IPEX Correspondents, 2 – 3 November 2023, Prague

Summary of Workshop II – IPEX Rolling Work Programme for years 2024-2026

The Workshop was co-chaired by Mr. Filip Ficner (Czech Chamber of Deputies) and Ms. Daniela Kupis (Polish Sejm). First, Mr. Filip Ficner (Co-Chair) summed up the work of the Working Group on IPEX Rolling Work Programme 2024-2026 during this year, especially in terms of the WG's agenda, number of meetings and planned activities for the rest of the Czech Chairmanship of the IPEX Board. He confirmed the intention of the Czech Chairmanship to present the first draft of the new Rolling Work Programme on January's Board Meeting. Then, he stressed a link between the preparation of the new Rolling Work Programme and the work of the Working Group on Content, in particular the outputs of the IPEX Users Survey. He reiterated that within the next Programme, emphasis should be put on more active participation within the WGs, and in that sense, he appealed to the Participants to consider their active participation in the WGs or to identify colleagues within their Parliaments that would possibly join the WGs.

Ms. Ilse van den Driessche (Dutch Senate) remotely joined the workshop and commented on the Study based on the IPEX Users Survey with relevance to the preparation of the new Rolling Work Programme. She presented key findings and conclusions of the survey, with special focus on suggested actions. She stressed that the respondents to the Questionnaire counted among the most active users of IPEX, the IPEX users mostly looked for information on subsidiarity, followed by information on political dialogue and information on conferences, IPEX logo was still not present at all National Parliaments' websites and the Committee staff in National Parliaments was a specific group that should be especially targeted in the future.

Participants of the Workshop expressed their opinions, suggestions and concerns in the subsequent debate. Most discussed points were related to these issues:

- Concerns were raised about the consistency of the information uploaded to the IPEX website by Parliaments. No one questioned the reliability of uploaded information, but participants pointed out that the structure and the form of uploaded information differed (sometimes substantially). They proposed a possibility of introducing templates for certain categories of uploaded information.
- Participants also commented on a lack of translations of uploaded documents, as many of them were still not available in English. At least, courtesy translations would be very helpful and welcomed.
- Further concerns were mentioned on possibly non-existing documents/dossiers in the section "Legislative Database". A participant described a case from a National Parliament, having been contacted by colleagues from committee staff that were not able to find an EU document or a whole dossier. This was described as possibly discouraging colleagues (NP's staff) from using IPEX, after such experience, and leading to searching for information at different sites than IPEX, which would be a pity.
- Participants repeatedly commented on a possibility to set up a new Working Group under the new Rolling Work Programme, they would welcome a Working Group on

overlooking the functioning of IPEX website (some referred to the discussion on this issue at the last Board Meeting).

- Due to a great number of new IPEX Correspondents, participants pointed out at a lack of informal meetings that would enable to discuss IPEX related issues and exchange experience. They appreciated good practice introduced by the German Chairmanship – IPEX Now. In that sense, they proposed to get back to this practice and organize such informal online meetings.