Written report on the work of IPEX in 2012

1. Technical Developments

Since its launch, the website has been continuously improved and updated. This has involved aspects of maintenance and development, all in all there were processed more than a 100 issues and rolled out in 7 different versions.The main issues referred to the following categories:

Website
- Presentation and ranking issues
- Smaller design improvements

Content and access
- Extending the language scope of EU documents to all official languages
- Changes required to integrate new document codes used (f.i. SWD, JOIN)
- Improving the search facilities of the site
- Improved access control to forums
- Changes related to the archiving of the symbol 'Subsidiarity concerns'
- Extended support for electronic transmission of all language versions of documents produced by the EC
- Introducing a table of Reasoned Opinions and Contributions received from national Parliaments under Protocol 2 of the Treaty of Lisbon

XML feed
- Support for national Parliaments that develop or run an integration with the 'XML feed' transmission
- Aligning the formatting used when uploading scrutinies by the XML feed to what is possible in the desktop

All IPEX Correspondents were given the opportunity to get to know the new website by permanent communications sent out by the IPEX Information Officer, a training course in The Hague (held together with the annual meeting of the IPEX Correspondents, 15 November 2012) and by individual trainings given by the IPEX Information Officer either in Brussels (three information sessions for officials and political groups of the European Parliament, one each for staff of the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and Committee of the Regions and to the representatives of the national Parliaments in Brussels or directly in the capitals of the Member States of the European Union, The Hague and London).

2. Employment of the IPEX Information Officer

At the end of 2012, the contract of the IPEX Information Officer expired. According to the mandate of the Secretaries General given in Warsaw in 2012 to the IPEX Board, the Board decided to ask the Chair of the IPEX Board to renew the contract with the IPEX Information Officer, Mr Calin Racoti, a Romanian citizen. In the meanwhile, the German Bundestag has renewed the employment contract based on German law and got the necessary permits from the Belgian authorities for his employment in

Brussels. On the basis of signed Letters of Intent, the position of the IPEX Information Officer is financed by the annual contributions from the national Parliaments.

3. IPEX FACTS AND FIGURES

Upload of documents and dossiers

IPEX publishes currently almost 40,000 pages from national parliaments, describing scrutiny related information for more than 7,500 documents produced by the EU institutions and linked to almost 6,000 dossiers. In 2012 the total number of legislative proposals recorded in IPEX was 784 (2011: 1,194; 2010: 1,084).

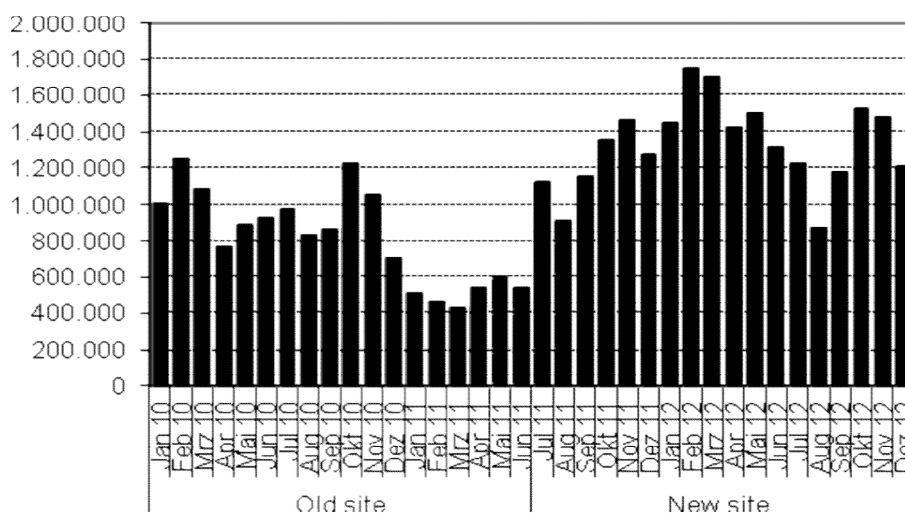Fig. 1 - Documents uploaded from the European institutions

2012			
	COM	510	*65%*
	SWD	258	*33%*
	JOIN	11	*1%*
	SEC	3	*0%*
	PE	2	*0%*
	TOTAL	**784**	

Fig. 2 - Dossiers uploaded from the European institutions

2012			
	COM	310	*45%*
	SWD	170	*25%*
	COD	114	*17%*
	NLE	69	*10%*
	JOIN	9	*1%*
	APP	6	*1%*
	CNS	5	*1%*
	SEC	3	*0%*
	INI	1	*0%*
	TOTAL	**687**	

Since its launch, the new IPEX website had almost 24 million hits and an average of more than 400,000 pages viewed every month, i.e. the number of hits increased notably.

Fig. 3 - Number of monthly hits (since January 2010)

Documents and scrutiny updates from national Parliaments

Related to the legislative proposals in 2012, national parliaments uploaded 3,800 scrutiny related pages.

Scrutiny entries uploaded by National Parliaments

(alphabetic order - english)	Total of uploaded scrutinies	Prc of total	Uploads in 2012	Prc of total
Austria, Parliament	233	1%	61	2%
Belgian Chamber of Representatives	295	1%	69	2%
Belgian Senate	924	2%	174	5%
Bulgaria, National Assembly	95	0%	11	0%
Cyprus, House of Representatives	11	0%	7	0%
Czech Chamber of Deputies	2011	5%	41	1%
Czech Senate	512	1%	79	2%
Denmark, Folketinget	760	2%	5	0%
Estonian Parliament	252	1%	5	0%
Finnish Parliament	863	2%	140	4%
French National Assembly	1148	3%	17	0%
French Senate	319	1%	19	1%
German Bundesrat	1042	3%	146	4%
German Bundestag	3028	7%	184	5%
Greece, Parliament	45	0%	6	0%
Hungarian National Assembly	87	0%	8	0%
Ireland, Houses of Oireachtas	1953	5%	126	3%
Italian Chamber of Deputies	2456	6%	22	1%
Italian Senate	374	1%	74	2%
Latvia, Saeima	11	0%	2	0%
Lithuanian Parliament	311	1%	84	2%
Luxembourg, Chamber of Deputies	353	1%	9	0%
Maltese House of Representatives	909	2%	42	1%
Polish Sejm	2917	8%	439	12%
Polish Senate	1829	5%	146	4%
Portugal, Assembleia da República	804	2%	130	3%
Romanian Chamber of Deputies	207	1%	64	2%
Romanian Senate	71	0%	32	1%
Slovak Republic, National Council	928	2%	158	4%
Slovenian National Assembly	322	1%	49	1%
Spain, Cortes Generales	977	3%	86	2%
Sweden, Riksdagen	4540	12%	500	13%
The Netherlands, Tweede Kamer	357	1%	27	1%
The Netherlands, Eerste Kamer	411	1%	47	1%
UK House of Commons	4335	11%	391	10%
UK House of Lords	2761	7%	410	11%
TOTAL	**38451**		**3800**	

Reasoned opinions uploaded to IPEX in 2012[1]

Country	Chamber	Reasoned Opinions
Austria	Bundesrat	3
Austria	Nationalrat	1
Belgium	Chambre des Représentants	3
Belgium	Sénat	0
Bulgaria	Narodno Sabrania	0
Cyprus	House of Representatives	3
Czech Republic	Senát	0
Czech Republic	Poslanecká sněmovna	1
Denmark	Folketinget	3
Estonia	Riigikogu	0
Finland	Eduskunta	1
France	Sénat	10
France	Assemblée Nationale	0
Germany	Bundesrat	5
Germany	Bundestag	1
Greece	Chamber of Deputies	0
Hungary	National Assembly	0
Ireland	Oireachtas	0
Italy	Senato della Republica	2
Italy	Camera dei Deputati	1
Luxembourg	Chambre des Députés	4
Malta	Kamra tad-Deputati	1
Poland	Sejm	3
Poland	Senat	2
Portugal	Assembleia da Republica	1
Romania	Senatul	0
Romania	Camera Deputaților	0
Slovakia	Národná rada	1
Spain	Cortes Generales	2
Sweden	Riksdagen	21
The Netherlands	Tweede Kamer Staten Generaal	6
The Netherlands	Eerste Kamer Staten Generaal	6
United Kingdom	House of Commons	4
United Kingdom	House of Lords	1
	TOTAL	**86**

XML

Around 20 national Parliaments and chambers are using or have started investigations about using the XML feed for transmitting information to IPEX (the Swedish Riksdagen, the Finnish Eduskunta, the Czech Senate, the French Senate, the German Bundestag, the Italian Senate, the Irish House

---

[1] The result is expressing all documents uploaded on IPEX by national Parliaments and labeled as Reasoned Opinions in the year 2012, including for procedures started in 2011.

of Oireachtas, the National Council of the Slovak Republic and the Parliament of the United Kingdom are using XML feed). A larger implementation of the XML feed would greatly benefit the national Parliaments, since it would reduce the manual work amount of the national Correspondent, it would contribute to improving the content of the platform, as well as speeding up the upload, a crucial factor in the reliability of IPEX.

Archive of the Speakers Conference website

The historical archive of the Conference of the European Parliamentary Assemblies and of the European Union Conference was also expanded by means of through research of the archives and scanning of significant documents found by the colleagues from the German Bundestag, Spanish Cortes Generales and Portuguese Assembleia da República.

News in IPEX

The News section of IPEX received and published more than 30 contributions, both for the general public and the national Correspondents.

Meetings of the IPEX bodies in 2012

In 2012, the IPEX Board met three times, on 13.01.2012, 22.06.2012 and 07.12.2012. The Central Support held seven meetings, namely on 13.01., 01.03, 04.05, 21.06., 20.09., 15.11. and 03.12.2012. The meeting December, 3, 2012 took place in the form of a videoconference. The special Working Group of the Central Support appointed by the Board to cooperate with the COM and the Council General Secretariats, met on May, 3, with representatives of both institutions.

The annual Correspondents meeting took place, 15 and 16 November 2012 in The Hague with the participation of correspondents coming from 25 member states, the European Parliament and three candidate countries.