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EIN-A4

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EIN Seminar on the EU more Inter-Parliamentary, Intergovernmental or communitarian? The role of the European Council and National Parliaments in the EU architecture

Chair:

- **Paulo Rangel MEP**, *EIN Chairman, Vice-Chair of the EPP Group in the European Parliament responsible for Political Strategy and the European Ideas Network*

Keynote Speaker:

- **Alain LAMASSOURE MEP**, *President of the French EPP Delegation in the European Parliament*

Speakers:

- **Prof. Dr. Christine NEUHOLD**, *Special Chair of EU Democratic Governance, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS), Department of Political Science, University of Maastricht*
- **Prof. Dr. Wolfgang WESSELS**, *Department of Political Science and European Studies, University of Cologne, Chairman of the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)*
- **Prof. Olivier COSTA**, *Director of the Department of European Political and Administrative Studies, College of Europe*
- **Carlos Fernandez de CASADEVANTE ROMANI**, *Professor of International Law and International Relations, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain*

Rapporteur:

- **Rui RAMOS**, *Senior Fellow Researcher at the Institute of Social Sciences, the University of Lisbon*

- In order to develop the EU democratic system we need to increase the role of the European Parliament in the decision-making process. There is a need for a better cooperation between national parliaments and here we can highlight the importance of the inter-parliamentary conferences. EP has to propose new ideas about the role of EU Council, European and National parliaments.
- There is a different role perception among national parliaments; some of them are using the Lisbon tools very actively. We have more information exchange, more cooperation and coordination after 2009, despite the fact that it can be seen a deficit of staff in some Member States.
- We have a process of parliamentarisation and inter-parliamentarisation in the EU at the same time. European elections has become more important, in some cases they reflect the national elections.
- More ministers or prime ministers in the European Council are euro-sceptic. What will happened if the right wing parties does not have a majority in the EP and the EU council at the same time? Euro-skepticism could help the EU to improve its functioning.
- Young people do not know other political system than democracy. They have to know about the situation in the EU 40-50 years ago in order to understand the real meaning and importance of the EU.
- We need to focus not only on the EU law but also on a national law in order to be capable to answer the current problems- migration, populism, nationalism, etc. At the same time, we need to focus more on the role of the European Parliament instead of the role of EU council.
- Many decisions could be and should be taken by the experts but the politicians should decide the very important political choices. Power corrupts but lack of power also corrupts.

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