



**STORTINGET**

**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**29<sup>th</sup> EU - Norway Interparliamentary Meeting**

**26 February 2013  
European Parliament, Brussels**

**JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

The 29th EU-Norway Interparliamentary Meeting was held in the European Parliament in Brussels today.

The European Parliament (EP) delegation, led by **Mr Pat the Cope GALLAGHER** (chairperson, ALDE, Ireland), hosted the meeting with the Norwegian delegation, led by its chairperson **Ms Ine Marie ERIKSEN SØREIDE** (Conservative Party).

Both Delegations have considered the ongoing EEA review and expressed their satisfaction with the functioning of the EEA agreement, which has been the main basis for EU-Norway relations. The Delegations also exchanged views on several topics, including fisheries policy, trade relations, and foreign policy cooperation. The Delegations welcomed the decision by the EP to allocate to the Norwegian Parliament an office in the premises of the EP in Brussels, which will facilitate even closer and more regular contact between the two parliaments.

Moreover, the Interparliamentary Meeting was focused on the following topics in particular:

- Relations between the EU and Norway, including development of the EEA-relevant EU legislation, with addresses by:
  - **H.E. Mr Atle LEIKVOLL**, Ambassador, Mission of Norway to the EU;
  - **Ms Hilda Ó RIAIN**, Chair of the EFTA Working Party, Presidency-in-Office of the Council of the EU;
  - **Mr Gianluca GRIPPA**, Head of Western Europe Unit, European External Action Service
- EEA review, including the EU's relations with the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino
- Recent developments in EU-Norway trade relations
- Implications of the new EU financial supervision institutions for Norway
- Current developments related to fisheries, including the reform of the EU Common Fisheries Policy

- EU-Norway cooperation in relation to the CFSP and CSDP, including parliamentary scrutiny, developments in the Middle East and Arab Spring, and relations with the EU's Eastern Partnership countries (including Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia in particular) and Russia.

The next Interparliamentary Meeting is scheduled to take place in 2014 in Norway.

**Members of the EP Delegation present:**

Mr Pat the Cope GALLAGHER	ALDE, Ireland ( <b>Chairperson</b> )
Ms Anna HEDH, 1st Vice-chair	S&D, Sweden
Mr Zuzana BRZOBOHATÁ	S&D, Czech Republic
Ms Sidonia Elzbieta JEDRZEJEWSKA	EPP, Poland
Mr Paul RÜBIG	EPP, Austria
Ms Catherine STIHLER	S&D, UK
Mr Theodor Dumitru STOLOJAN	EPP, Romania
Mr Indrek TARAND	Greens/ALE, Estonia
Ms Isabelle THOMAS	S&D, France
Ms Angelika WERTHMANN	ALDE, Austria

**Other Members of the EP present:**

Mr Bendt BENDTSEN	EPP, Denmark
Mr Christofer FJELLNER	EPP, Sweden
Mr Michael GAHLER	EPP, Germany

**Members of Stortinget Delegation present:**

Ms Ine Marie ERIKSEN SØREIDE	Conservative Party ( <b>Chairperson</b> )
Mr Svein Roald HANSEN	Labour Party ( <b>First Deputy Chair</b> )
Mr Lars Peder BREKK	Centre Party
Mr Peter GITMARK	Conservative Party
Mr Morten HØGLUND	Progress Party
Mr Ivar KRISTIENSEN	Conservative Party
Mr Peter N MYHRE	Progress Party
Mr Sverre MYRLI	Labour Party
Mr Tore NORDTUN	Labour Party

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Abbreviations:

EPP	European People's Party Christian-Democratic Group
S&D	Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats
ALDE/ADLE	Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
Greens/EFA	Greens/European Free Alliance