

# 33rd EU – Norway Interparliamentary Meeting

23 February 2017

The Storting, Oslo

## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

The 33rd EU-Norway Interparliamentary Meeting was held at the Storting – the Norwegian Parliament – in Oslo today.

The Norwegian Delegation, led by Mr Øyvind HALLERAKER (first vice chair, Conservative Party), hosted the meeting with the European Parliament (EP) Delegation, led by Mr Jørn DOHRMANN (chairperson, European Conservatives and Reformists Group, Denmark).

The Delegations have taken stock of the current state of EU-Norway relations and shared the assessment that in general the relations are excellent and developing positively. Both delegations expressed their satisfaction that the EEA remains the main framework for EU-Norway cooperation, underlining at the same time that this cooperation goes much beyond the EEA, including such areas as foreign and security policy, tackling the migration crisis and the fight against terrorism. The Delegations underlined the importance of this close collaboration in the current particularly challenging geopolitical situation. The Delegations exchanged views on several other topics, including current negotiations between the EU and Norway on the trade in agricultural products, and the continued effort to reduce the amount of legislation adopted by the EU not taken into the EEA Agreement.

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

- Relations between the EU and Norway, with addresses by:
  - Mr Frank Bakke-Jensen, Minister for EEA and EU Affairs, Norway
  - H.E. Ms Helen Campbell, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Norway
- Foreign policy cooperation and relations with Russia
- Arctic policy and the on-going European Parliament report on an integrated EU policy for the Arctic
- Economic and political challenges to the future of the Single Market
- Norwegian child welfare service - Barnevernet
- Schengen/Dublin and the migration crisis in Europe

The next Interparliamentary Meeting is scheduled to take place in Brussels in 2018.

MEMBERS OF THE EP DELEGATION PRESENT:

Mr Jørn DOHRMANN, Chair, ECR, Denmark  
Ms Anna HEDH, Vice-Chair, S&D, Sweden  
Ms Julia PITERA, EPP, Poland  
Mr Paul RÜBIG, EPP, Austria  
Ms Catherine STIHLER, S&D United Kingdom

MEMBERS OF THE STORTING DELEGATION PRESENT:

Mr Øyvind HALLERAKER, Conservative Party, First Vice Chair  
Mr Christian TYBRING-GJEDDE, Progress Party, Second Vice Chair  
Mr Svein Roald HANSEN, Labour Party  
Ms Elisabeth Vik ASPAKER, Conservative Party  
Mr Kåre SIMENSEN, Labour Party  
Ms Elin Rodum AGDESTEIN, Conservative Party  
Ms Tone Heimdal BRATAAS, Progress Party  
Ms Ingerd SCHOU, Conservative Party, Chair Delegation to the PACE  
Ms Siri A. MELING, Conservative Party, Delegation for Arctic Cooperation

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Dag Stangnes  
Storting (Norwegian Parliament)  
Tel: 00 47 23 31 35 13  
E-mail: [dag.stangnes@stortinget.no](mailto:dag.stangnes@stortinget.no)

Tatiana Mrazikova  
European Parliament  
Tel: + 32 2 28 31 739  
E-mail: [tatiana.mrazikova@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:tatiana.mrazikova@europarl.europa.eu)

\* \* \*

Abbreviations:

ECR European Conservatives and Reformist Group  
EPP Group of European People's Party  
S&D Group of Progressive Alliance of Socialist and Democrats