



## STORTINGET

Oslo, 12.12.2017

Dear President,

I would like to congratulate you on your new position as President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria. I would also like to express my gratitude for your predecessor's letter of 8 November, which included the calendar of the inter-parliamentary conferences that the National Assembly is organising within the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the forthcoming Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The calendar of your presidency includes a number of highly interesting parliamentary events. Norway is closely associated with the EU through the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement and a number of other agreements. With the EU and Norway so deeply integrated, we share a common interest in increased cooperation and knowledge sharing. Participation in the meetings forecasted provides an important and valuable opportunity to this end.

I am aware that for certain meetings, the Bulgarian EU Presidency would need to consult with its troika partners before extending invitations to special guests. This is the case for the COSAC chairpersons and the COSAC plenary meetings as well as the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU. I would be very grateful if you would forward this letter to the chairpersons of the standing committees responsible for those meetings to facilitate these consultations.

Honourable Tsveta Karayancheva  
President of the National Assembly  
of the Republic of Bulgaria



In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success with the EU Presidency of the Republic of Bulgaria this spring as well as with the important work as the President of the National Assembly.

Looking forward to continued close cooperation, I remain

Yours faithfully,



Olemic Thommessen