

Bundesversammlung

Assemblée fédérale

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Swiss Delegation to the
Parliamentary Committee of EFTA
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Ms Outi Alanko-Kahiluoto
Chair of the Grand Committee
Parliament of Finland

9 May 2019

Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation

Dear Ms Outi Alanko-Kahiluoto,

On behalf of the Swiss delegation for relations with European institutions and their member states, I would like to congratulate you on Finland's imminent presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The Parliamentary Dimension is an important part of every EU Presidency. This has been particularly true since the adoption of the Treaty of Lisbon, which has strengthened the role of national parliaments in the EU's legislative process. In that context, I would be honoured to be able to represent a Swiss delegation at the inter-parliamentary meetings to be chaired by the Finnish Council presidency.

I am certain that Switzerland's participation at future inter-parliamentary meetings during the Finnish presidency of the Council of the EU would be of mutual benefit for the EU and Switzerland to strengthen bilateral relations – as important political and economic partners. With this in mind, I would like to wish you a successful and enriching EU Council Presidency in the second half of 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Hans-Peter Portmann
President of the EFTA/EU Delegation