

## **The Cortes Generales and the Spanish Presidency of the EU**

During Spain's 6-month Presidency, the *Cortes Generales* are to host a number of parliamentary meetings with EU Member States' National Parliaments and the European Parliament.

Meetings scheduled at the seats of the Congress of Deputies and the Senate in Madrid are the following:

**Meeting of the XLIII COSAC.** The COSAC brings together the Committees specialising in EU affairs from all National Parliaments and the European Parliament's Constitutional Affairs Committee. The COSAC is chaired by the Member State that holds the rotating Presidency of the Council. Topics to be discussed are agreed upon at a meeting of COSAC Chairs convened at the early stages of the Presidency. They generally combine the Presidency's priorities with an exchange of experiences on National Parliaments' oversight of EU affairs. In the course of the Spanish Presidency:

The COSAC Chairs' meeting shall be held on 4 and 5 February at the Senate;

The full COSAC meeting shall be held on 30 and 31 May and 1 June at the Congress of Deputies.

**Committee Meetings.** These meetings bring together the Chairs of specialised committees from all national Parliaments and the European Parliament, convened by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating Presidency of the EU in order to exchange views on questions of common interest.

Additionally, in recent years the European Parliament has been hosting, jointly with the national parliament holding the rotating Presidency, a set of meetings at its seat in Brussels, referred to as ***Joint Parliamentary Meetings***.