

Exchange of correspondence between Klaus Hänsch and Jean-Claude Juncker (19 July 1996)

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Exchange of correspondence between Klaus Hänsch and Jean-Claude Juncker (19 July 1996)

The President of the European Parliament

To the
Prime Minister
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,
Mr Jean-Claude Juncker,
Rue de la Congrégation 4

L-2910 Luxembourg

Dear Prime Minister,

In the light of our discussions over the last few months, and following a decision taken by the Bureau of the European Parliament on 3 July 1996, I am now in a position to outline to you below my ideas as to how the European Parliament and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg might extend their cooperation and put it on a permanent footing.

To ensure regular exchanges of information between the European Parliament's Secretariat and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the President of the European Parliament and the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg shall, in future, each appoint a personal representative to be responsible for cooperation between the Secretariat and the Government.

These representatives shall meet on a regular basis and exchange all the requisite information about plans of mutual interest. In the event of any differences of opinion, they shall inform the President and Prime Minister respectively, who shall meet at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss the problem. The same procedure should be used if clarification is required with regard to the assignment of new posts in the European Parliament's Secretariat, for example in the event of an enlargement of the European Union.

The European Parliament's human-resource planning for the period up to 2004 provides for a total of 2 185 posts in Luxembourg. If, however, compelling reasons necessitate a reduction in that figure, the consultation procedure outlined in the preceding paragraph shall be used. Moreover, the European Parliament guarantees the assignment of 2 000 posts to Luxembourg up to 2004.

The European Parliament gives its assurance that the Translation Service shall remain in Luxembourg in its entirety. Most of the legal advisers and most of the staff responsible for the arrangements for plenary sittings shall also continue to be based in Luxembourg. The same shall apply to staff working in the general administrative services, although not to ushers', messengers', drivers', conference technicians' and interpreters' posts.

In addition, the sections of the administration engaged in research and archiving that are not attached to the EPI Centre — for example, STOA — shall remain in Luxembourg. The EPI Centre shall establish a branch office in the Secretariat in Luxembourg with an on-line link to its main office.

The Secretary-General of the European Parliament and some of the staff employed in his private office shall, of course, continue to be based in Luxembourg.

With regard to grade A1 and grade A2 posts, the European Parliament gives its assurance that these shall remain in Luxembourg while most of the posts in the services for which they are responsible are based there. Post-holders who, at the time of this exchange of correspondence, are already working in Brussels or Luxembourg shall remain where they are currently based for the duration of their employment.

The arrangements set out in the preceding paragraphs shall apply until the end of the European Parliament's

fifth parliamentary term or until 30 June 2004 at the latest. During the second half of 2004, the serving President of the European Parliament and the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg should meet to discuss the procedure for the future.

All the arrangements set out in the preceding paragraphs may be amended, following appropriate discussions between the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the President of the European Parliament, in the same way that this exchange of correspondence was initiated.

I am convinced that, by means of this exchange of correspondence, we have laid a sound basis for cooperation with a view to the future.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Klaus Hänsch

GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
THE PRIME MINISTER

To His Excellency,
Mr Klaus Hänsch
President of the European Parliament

Dear Mr President,

In the light of our discussions over the last few months, and following a decision taken in Cabinet on 19 July 1996, I am now in a position to outline to you below my ideas as to how the European Parliament and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg might extend their cooperation and put it on a permanent footing.

To ensure regular exchanges of information between the European Parliament's Secretariat and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the President of the European Parliament and the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg shall, in future, each appoint a personal representative to be responsible for cooperation between the Secretariat and the Government.

These representatives shall meet on a regular basis and exchange all the requisite information about plans of mutual interest. In the event of any differences of opinion, they shall inform the President and Prime Minister respectively, who shall meet at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss the problem. The same procedure should be used if clarification is required with regard to the assignment of new posts in the European Parliament's Secretariat, for example in the event of an enlargement of the European Union.

I note that the European Parliament's human-resource planning for the period up to 2004 provides for a total of 2 185 posts in Luxembourg. If, however, compelling reasons necessitate a reduction in that figure, the consultation procedure outlined in the preceding paragraph shall be used. Moreover, the European Parliament guarantees the assignment of 2 000 posts to Luxembourg up to 2004.

I further note that the Translation Service shall remain in Luxembourg in its entirety. Most of the legal advisers and most of the staff responsible for the arrangements for plenary sittings shall also continue to be based in Luxembourg. The same shall apply to staff working in the general administrative services, although not to ushers', messengers', drivers', conference technicians' and interpreters' posts.

In addition, the sections of the administration engaged in research and archiving that are not attached to the EPI Centre — for example, STOA — shall remain in Luxembourg. The EPI Centre shall establish a branch office in the Secretariat in Luxembourg with an on-line link to its main office.

The Secretary-General of the European Parliament and some of the staff employed in his private office shall, of course, continue to be based in Luxembourg.

With regard to grade A1 and grade A2 posts, the European Parliament gives its assurance that these shall remain in Luxembourg while most of the posts in the services for which they are responsible are based there. Post-holders who, at the time of this exchange of correspondence, are already working in Brussels or Luxembourg shall remain where they are currently based for the duration of their employment.

The arrangements set out in the preceding paragraphs shall apply until the end of the European Parliament's fifth parliamentary term or until 30 June 2004 at the latest. During the second half of 2004, the serving President of the European Parliament and the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg should meet to discuss the procedure for the future.

All the arrangements set out in the preceding paragraphs may be amended, following appropriate discussions between the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the President of the European Parliament, in the same way that this exchange of correspondence was initiated.

I am convinced that, by means of this exchange of correspondence, we have laid a sound basis for cooperation with a view to the future.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Jean-Claude Juncker
Prime Minister