



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

London SW1A 2AH

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Richard Ottaway MP  
Chairman,  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

*Dear Richard,*

I am committed to keeping Parliament informed on European Union issues. Therefore I am writing to various Parliamentary Committees about the EU Presidency programme. I believe that you and your Members would be interested in the attached analysis of the Belgian Presidency Work Programme and calendar of Belgian Presidency meetings for the rest of the year. I have also placed a copy of these documents in the library of the House, in the interest of informing all members.

You might also be interested in knowing that I have decided to end the practice of publishing a separate "Command Paper" on the EU Presidency. This glossy publication duplicated the strategic content of notes like this one and was judged unnecessary at a time when we are bearing down on publishing costs across Government.

I hope that you find this note useful in considering some of the European Union's priorities over the coming months. If this note is valuable I would be happy to commit to sending a similar note at the start of each Presidency of the European Union.

I will of course be happy to provide your Committee with more information on any of these issues.

*David Lidington*

David Lidington  
Minister for Europe