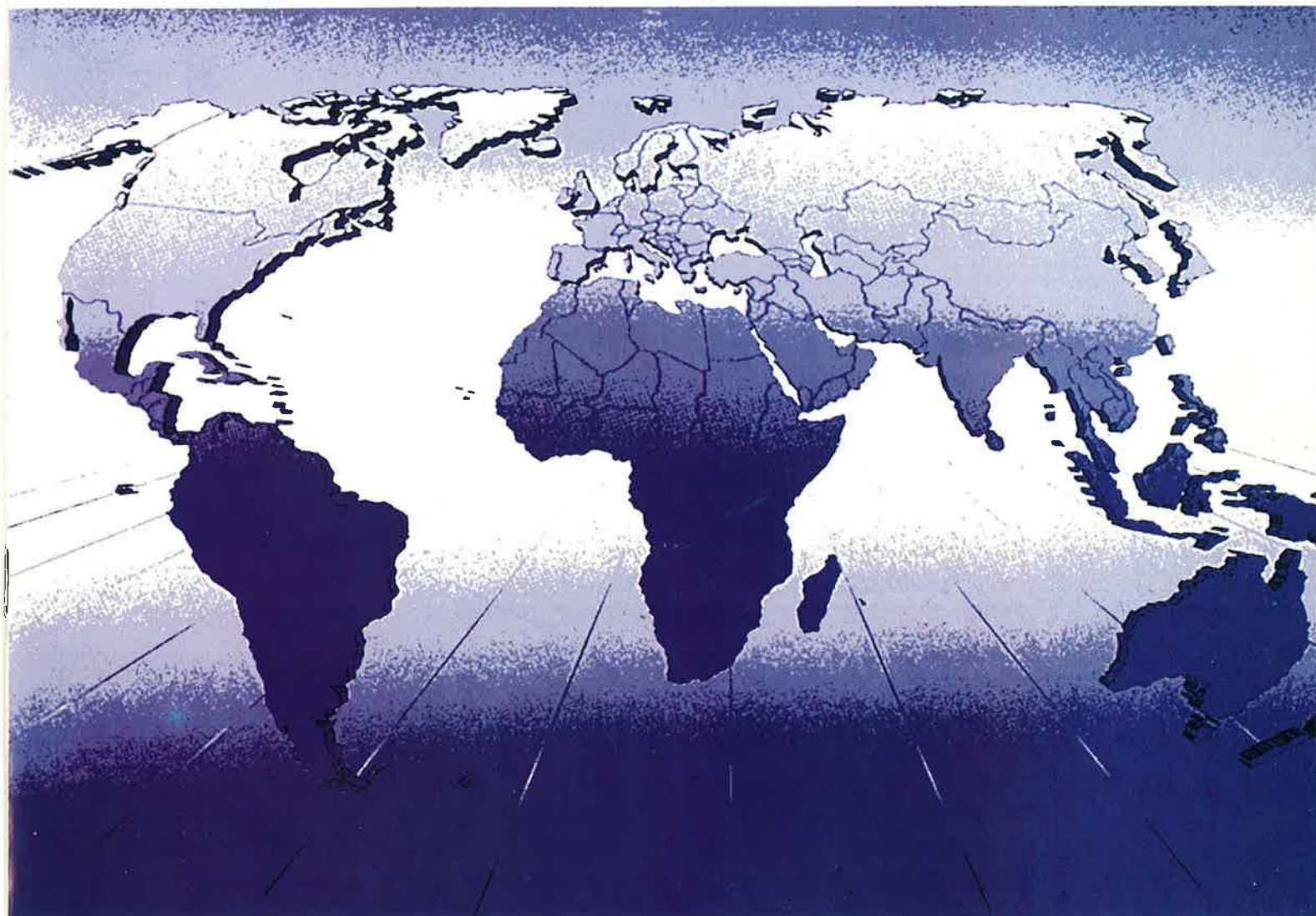




COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN POLICY



ABOUT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

On the basis of the Slovenian Constitution, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia began to function after the second democratic elections in 1992.

The most recent parliamentary elections, in which ninety deputies were elected to the National Assembly, were held on 3 October 2004.

Deputies are elected by universal, equal, direct and secret voting.

The deputies are the representatives of all the people and are not bound by any instructions.

The term of office of a deputy lasts four years. Elections to the National Assembly are called by the President of the Republic.

*France Cukjati, M.D.,
President of the National Assembly
of the Republic of Slovenia*

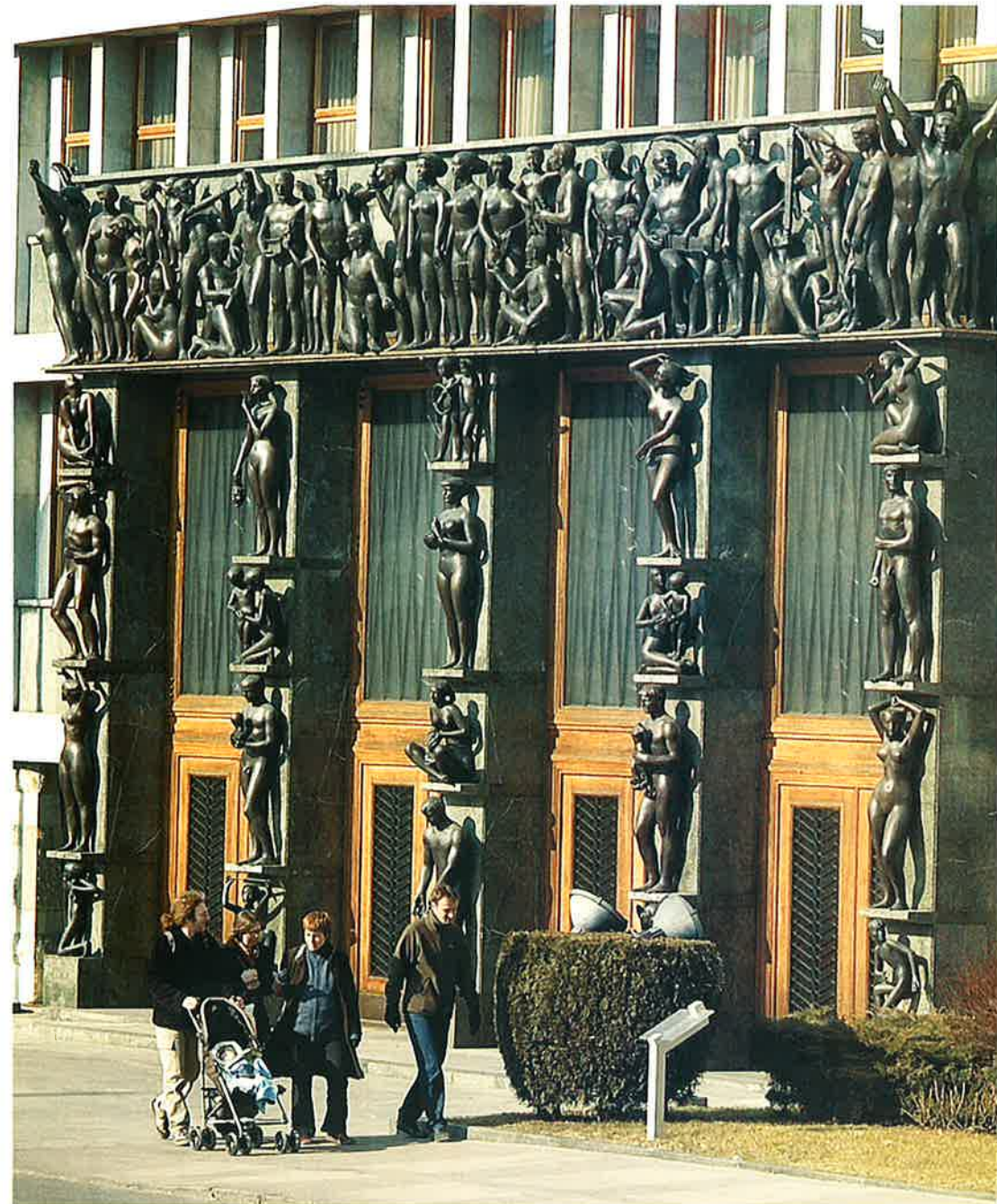


WORKING BODIES

The National Assembly establishes working bodies to monitor the state of affairs in individual areas, to prepare policy decisions in such areas, to formulate positions on particular issues and to discuss draft laws and other acts of the National Assembly.

A working body is composed of a chairman, usually one deputy chairman and the members. As a general rule, the offices of chairman and deputy chairman of a given working body are held by deputies of different deputy groups. If the chairman of a working body belongs to one of the deputy groups of the governing coalition, the office of deputy chairman will normally be held by a member of an opposition deputy group, and vice versa.

The leading positions in the Commission for Budgetary and Other Public Finance Control and in the Commission for Supervision of the Intelligence and Security Services are held by deputies of opposition deputy groups.





COMMITTEES

The National Assembly establishes standing committees, generally corresponding to the areas for which individual ministries are competent, or which cover several inter-related areas. Committees may also be established for specific tasks.

The National Assembly has the following committees in the 2004-2008 parliamentary term:

- The Committee on the Economy
- The Committee on Transport
- The Committee on the Environment and Spatial Planning
- The Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Food
- The Committee on Finance and Monetary Policy
- The Committee on Foreign Policy
- The Committee on Domestic Policy, Public Administration and Justice
- The Committee on Defence
- The Committee on Health
- The Committee on Labour, the Family, Social Policy and the Disabled
- The Committee on Culture, Education and Sport
- The Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technological Development
- The Committee on Local Self-Government and Regional Development
- The Committee on EU Affairs

COMMISSIONS

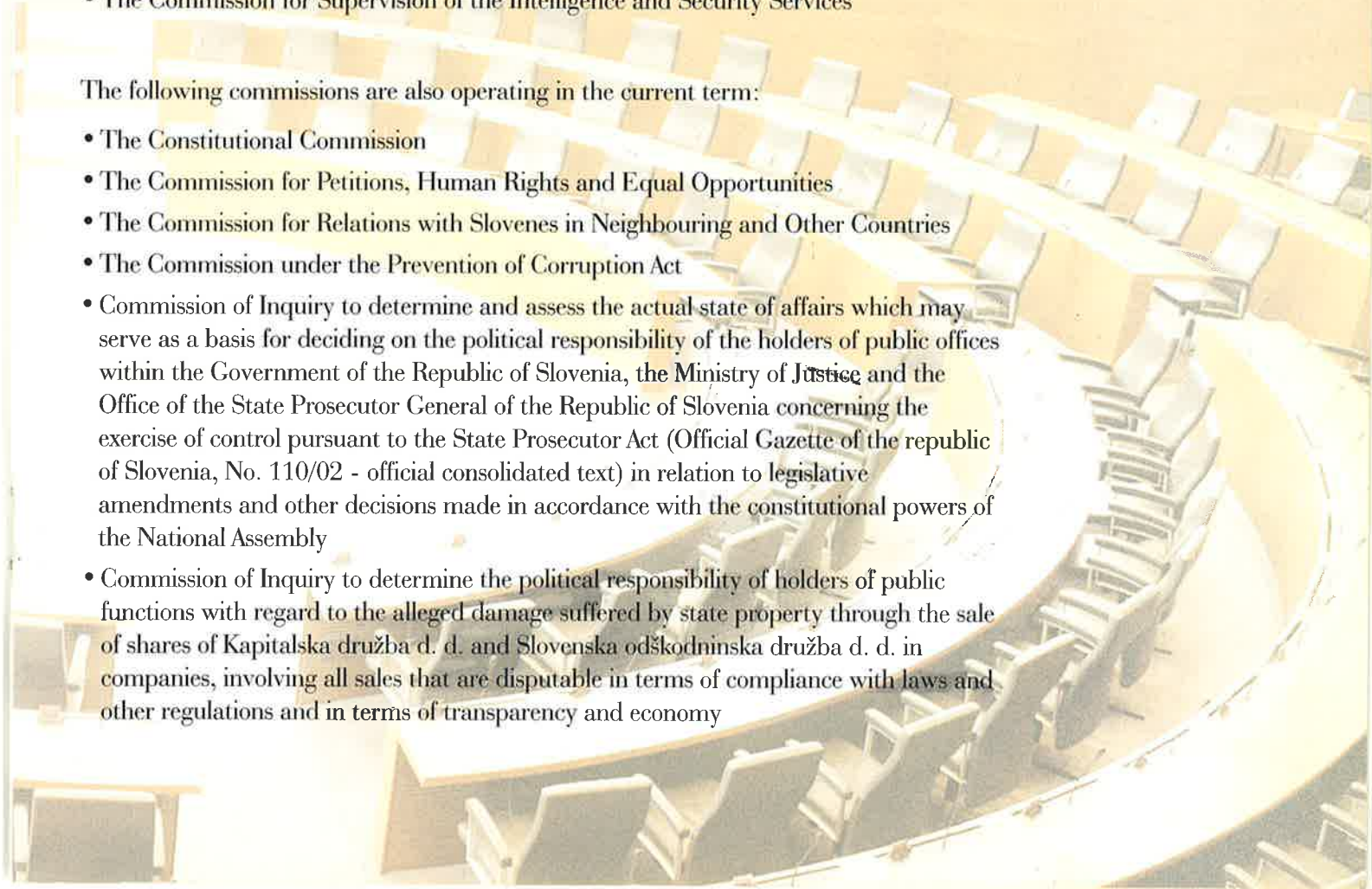
The National Assembly establishes commissions to examine specific common issues or to examine individual matters.

The National Assembly has the following standing commissions:

- The Commission for Mandates and Elections
- The Commission for the Rules of Procedure
- The Commission for National Communities
- The Commission for Budgetary and Other Public Finance Control
- The Commission for Supervision of the Intelligence and Security Services

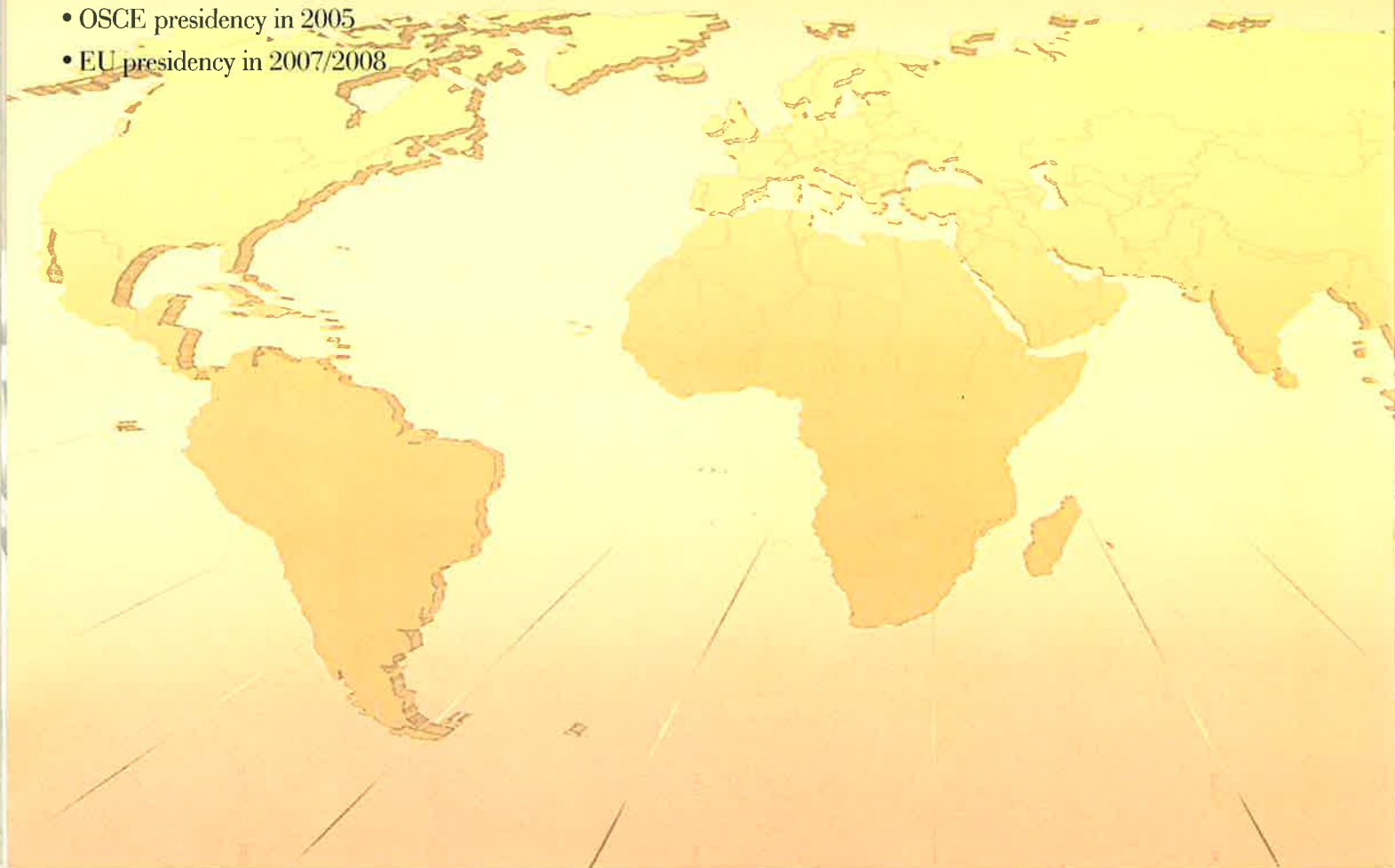
The following commissions are also operating in the current term:

- The Constitutional Commission
- The Commission for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities
- The Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighbouring and Other Countries
- The Commission under the Prevention of Corruption Act
- Commission of Inquiry to determine and assess the actual state of affairs which may serve as a basis for deciding on the political responsibility of the holders of public offices within the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the State Prosecutor General of the Republic of Slovenia concerning the exercise of control pursuant to the State Prosecutor Act (Official Gazette of the republic of Slovenia, No. 110/02 - official consolidated text) in relation to legislative amendments and other decisions made in accordance with the constitutional powers of the National Assembly
- Commission of Inquiry to determine the political responsibility of holders of public functions with regard to the alleged damage suffered by state property through the sale of shares of Kapitalska družba d. d. and Slovenska odškodninska družba d. d. in companies, involving all sales that are disputable in terms of compliance with laws and other regulations and in terms of transparency and economy



PRIORITIES OF SLOVENIA'S FOREIGN POLICY IN THE 2004-2008 PARLIAMENTARY TERM

- Improvement of bilateral relations, in particular with the neighbouring countries
- Active participation in the EU
- OSCE presidency in 2005
- EU presidency in 2007/2008



THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN POLICY

The Committee on Foreign Policy was established with the Ordinance on the Establishment and Tasks of National Assembly Working Bodies adopted by the National Assembly at its session of 17 November 2004.

The competences of the committee are determined pursuant to the Foreign Affairs Act, the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly, and the Ordinance. The Committee on Foreign Policy:

- discusses draft laws, other acts and issues relating to Slovenia's foreign affairs, consular protection, treaties and other issues dealt with by the competent ministry
- discusses issues regarding the bilateral and multilateral parliamentary co-operation
- assumes and delivers positions on issues placed on agendas of international parliamentary bodies, institutions and organisations, and brings such issues to the attention of the President of the National Assembly and chairmen of the working bodies
- approves the initiatives to conclude treaties which are within the exclusive competence of the Republic of Slovenia and, in the event of new elements arising in negotiations, also the new positions for the work of negotiating delegations
- discusses the proposals to open or close the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Slovenia abroad and to appoint the heads of diplomatic missions
- draws up the proposals for the Council of the President of the National Assembly regarding the composition of National Assembly delegations in international parliamentary institutions and international organisations and bodies
- provides for the international activities of the National Assembly in accordance with the relevant Rules



THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN POLICY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Republic of Slovenia became member of the European Union on 1 May 2004.

The Committee on Foreign Policy gave particular attention to Slovenia's adjustment and accession to the European Union. As the working body responsible, it discussed and approved Slovenian negotiating positions for all individual areas of negotiation with the EU. The Committee also discussed the text of the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU prior to its ratification in the National Assembly on 28 January 2004.

The Committee discussed and approved Slovenia's positions concerning the wording of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe prior to the ratification of the Constitutional Treaty in the National Assembly on 1 February 2005. The Republic of Slovenia was the third EU Member State to have ratified such Treaty.

In accordance with the Act on Cooperation between the National Assembly and the Government in EU Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Policy - similarly to the Committee on EU Affairs - is the working body competent for the discussion of EU affairs, namely those that pertain to foreign and security policy. In accordance with the said Act, the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly, and the Ordinance on the Establishment and Tasks of National Assembly Working Bodies, the Committee on Foreign Policy:

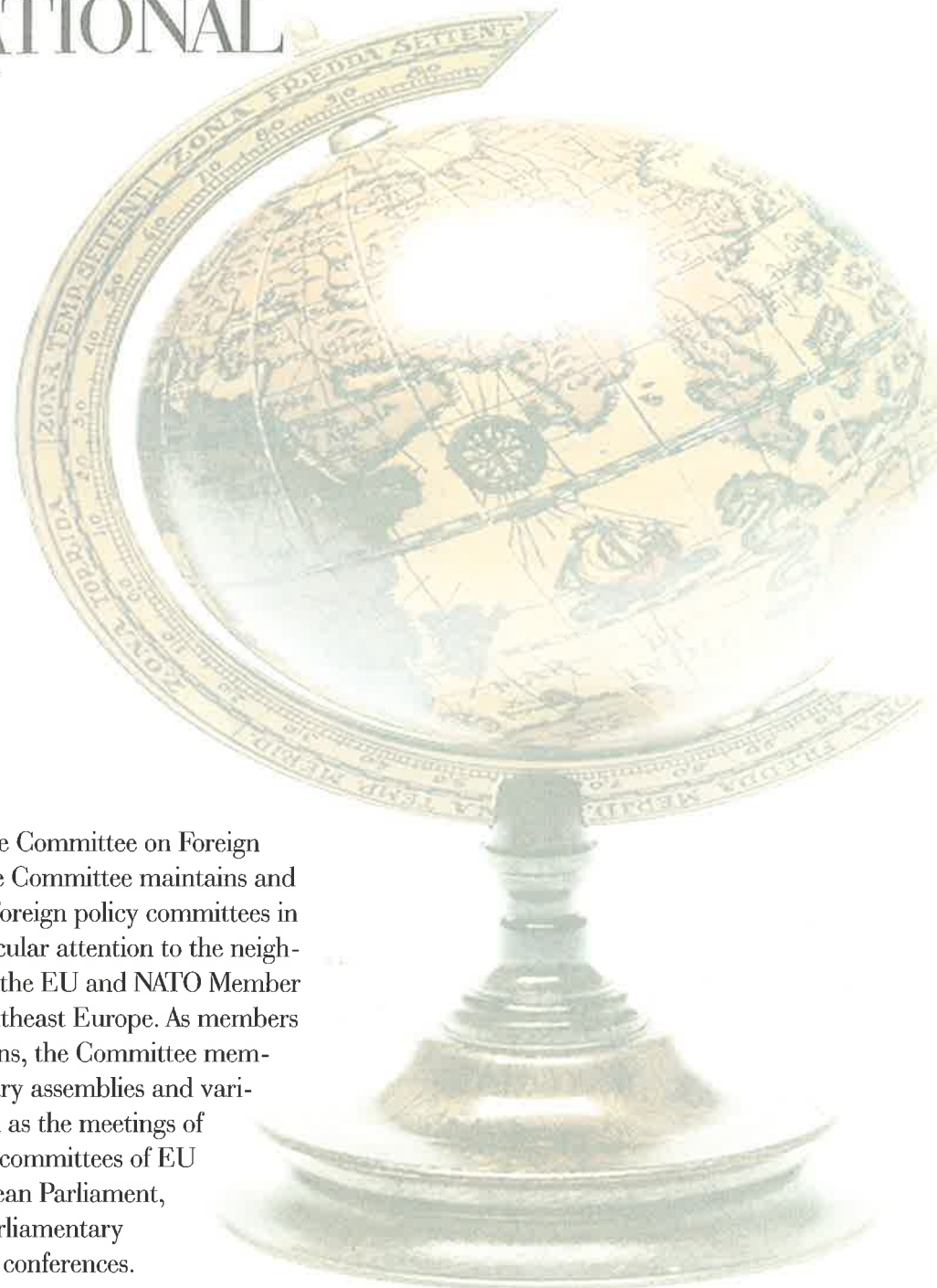
- discusses EU affairs pertaining to foreign and security policy, and the hereto related external action of the European Union, including the enlargement

- discusses draft laws ratifying the amendments to the Treaties on which the EU is founded, including the Accession Treaties of future Member States, as well as draft laws ratifying the treaties concluded by Slovenia with other EU Member States and the European Community or the EURATOM
- discusses draft declarations on the functioning of the Republic of Slovenia in EU institutions
- cooperates with EU institutions and other bodies
- cooperates with the working bodies responsible for individual EU affairs



INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

The international activity of the Committee on Foreign Policy is rich and complex. The Committee maintains and strengthens the relations with foreign policy committees in other countries and gives particular attention to the neighbouring countries as well as to the EU and NATO Member States and the countries of Southeast Europe. As members of National Assembly delegations, the Committee members participate to parliamentary assemblies and various multilateral meetings, such as the meetings of the chairmen of foreign affairs committees of EU Member States and the European Parliament, the conferences of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and other international conferences.



COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE



*Chairman Jožef
Jerovšek (SDS)*



*Deputy Chairman
Jožef Horvat (NSi)*



*Deputy Chairman
Zmago Jelinčič
Plemeniti (SNS)*



Zvonko Černač (SDS)



*Polonca Dobrajc
(SDS)*



*Darja Lavtižar Bebler
(LDS)*



*mag. Anton Rop
(LDS)*



Jožef Školč (LDS)



Samo Bevk (SD)



Franc Pukšič (SDS)



*mag. Branko Grims
(SDS)*



Miro Petek (SDS)



Milenko Zihlert (SDS)



Anton Anderlič (LDS)



Aurelio Juri (SD)



*Stanislav Brenčič
(SLS)*



*mag. Franc Žnidaršič
(DeSUS)*



*Roberto Battelli
(Italian national
community)*



*Maria Pozsonec
(Hungarian national
community)*

Legend of deputy groups:

SDS - Slovenian Democratic Party, **LDS** - Liberal Democracy of Slovenia, **SD** - Social Democrats, **N.Si** - New Slovenia - Christian People's Party, **SLS** - Slovene People's Party, **SNS** - Slovene National Party, **DeSUS** - Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



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