

The Secretary-General

D(2025)28954

15 OCT. 2025

NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU

Subject: Reinforcing the capacity of DG EPRS to support Parliament's core business

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services (DG EPRS) was created in 2013 with the mission to deliver in-house expertise, and to support policy-making at all stages of the legislative cycle.
2. Since its creation, DG EPRS has played an increasingly instrumental role in strengthening the capacity of Members to exercise their mandate. Its development has included redesigning and upgrading its products and services, further developing internal expertise, and strengthening cooperation with other institutions and academia – all aimed at continuously improving the quality of service provided to Members.
3. Building upon this progress and aiming to reinforce the capacity of DG EPRS to support Parliament's core business in line with recent reforms of Parliament's administration, this note outlines proposed structural modifications requiring approval by the Bureau. In order to further support the above objectives and mirror the proposed modifications, further changes will be implemented at lower organisational level.
4. The proposals outlined in this note were endorsed by the Bureau Working Group on Communication, Outreach and Research at its meeting on 14 October 2025 and are scheduled to take effect in December 2025.

II. PROPOSALS

A. Repurposing and renaming the 'Directorate for Impact Assessment and Foresight' into a 'Directorate for Impact Assessment and Evaluation'

5. The Directorate for Impact Assessment and Foresight works to strengthen Parliament's capacity for scrutiny and oversight of the executive, assess the effectiveness of policies and anticipate future challenges.

6. It is proposed to refocus the Directorate's activity on impact assessment and evaluation. This strategic adjustment is intended to strengthen the Directorate's ability to deliver comprehensive impact assessments, produce detailed analyses of delegated acts, and increase its capacity to monitor legislative developments. It will also allow to cultivate specialised expertise in these critical areas, thereby contributing to more effective law- and policy-making.
7. Ultimately, the proposed repurposing will better equip Members to scrutinise the Commission's activities across all stages of the legislative and policy cycles - from the preparation of EU law and policies (pre-legislative) to its implementation, enforcement and effectiveness in practice (post-legislative).
8. In order to reflect such repurposed mandate, it is also proposed to rename the Directorate into 'Directorate for Impact Assessment and Evaluation'.

B. Creating a Directorate for Academia, Research and Foresight

9. In recent years, the complexity of requests received by DG EPRS has increased, and Members' needs have evolved, with a growing demand for more specialised and concise products delivered within shortened timeframes.
10. While DG EPRS products mainly draw on internal expertise, collaborations with external experts are essential for accessing highly specialised research and for establishing cooperation activities that informs these outputs.
11. Creating a dedicated directorate for academia would ensure structured collaboration with the academic community, enabling Parliament to consistently access a network of experts who can ensure timely input of high scientific quality at every stage of the legislative process. Such structured cooperation would also provide Members with increased opportunities to engage in dialogue with the academic world, which could foster a reciprocal scientific research interest in the work of Members.
12. Thanks to a structured engagement with the academic community, a directorate dedicated to academia would be well positioned to foster a forward-looking approach to research. By leveraging academic expertise across disciplines, it would contribute to the Parliament's strategic foresight efforts, supporting the development of evidence-based future scenarios. These scenarios would help anticipate emerging challenges and opportunities, inform long-term policy planning, and enhance the Institution's capacity to respond proactively to societal, technological, environmental and geopolitical trends. Such foresight efforts would be led by the existing Unit for Policy Foresight which will be moved to this new Directorate.
13. In light of the above, it is proposed to create a Directorate for Academia, Research and Foresight.

C. Suppressing the Directorate for Resources

14. The Directorate for Resources, which contains two units, Information Technology Unit and Finance Unit, will be suppressed and these two units directly attached to the Director-General.

III. DECISION

15. The members of the Bureau are invited to:

- take note of the information contained in the present note;
- approve the repurposing and renaming of the 'Directorate for Impact Assessment and Foresight' of DG EPRS into a 'Directorate for Impact Assessment and Evaluation';
- approve the creation of a 'Directorate for Academia, Research and Foresight' within DG EPRS;
- approve the suppression of the 'Directorate for Resources' of DG EPRS.



Alessandro Chiocchetti