

Opzet

Taal: Engels

Tijd/duur gesprek: 30 minuten

Meeluisteren: DEU/ [redacted] (10)(2e) + DIE/ [redacted] (10)(2e)

Inbelgegevens: Er kan via het rechtstreekse nummer van de PA van minister Logar contact worden opgenomen: [redacted] (10)(2e)

Hoofdboodschap / doelstelling

- Kennismakingsgesprek met nieuwe Sloveense counterpart (*in office* sinds 13 maart). N.a.v. het kennismakingsgesprek zal SLV MFA een korte persverklaring uitdoen.

- **[MFK]:** SLV is een euro- en cohesieland. [redacted] (10)(2g)

[redacted] (10)(2g)

Spreekpunten

[Intro]

- Please allow me to extend my sincere congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- Glad to have the opportunity now to get acquainted with you. Difficult times for all of us. I can imagine that starting a new post as Minister of Foreign Affairs is challenging during these times.
- The relationship between Slovenia and the Netherlands has always been close and I look forward to working with you both at the bilateral level and in the broader framework of the European Union.
- Hopefully we will soon have the opportunity to meet in person.

[MFK]

- COVID-19 has unprecedented impact on our citizens and economy. Clear that modifications to next MFF are needed. At the same time, necessary to keep long-term focus on broader policy priorities.
- My main concern is about the proposed **funding mechanism** the CION is considering, by issuing debt to finance the EU budget (“loans for grants”). This runs counter to sound budgetary principles and might lead to debt mutualization. It will lead to

substantial repayment obligations for our countries in the coming years and decades.

- As Slovenia and NL are both nations that attach great importance to sound public finances, I hope we can **cooperate in GAC and EUCO** to ensure EU budget is not debt-financed.
- Please tell me what is important for Slovenia.
- [Ambtelijke follow-up]: Let's agree that we ask our MFF teams to **follow up** at their earliest possible convenience.

Vervolg opmerkingen / tweede ronde

- Our main points regarding the new MFF proposal are:
- **Needs assessment:** NL budget deficit more than 10% this year, same for others. Figures we read of new MFF of 2-3% GDP are simply not realistic. That is why we need a 'needs assessment'. What will the money be used for?
- **Priorities:** If some additional investment is needed, these recovery efforts should be
 - 1) limited in time,
 - 2) linked to structural reforms and
 - 3) focused on research & innovation, green recovery, strengthening of the internal market and crisis response capacity.
- Modifications should primarily be made by **adjusting** and **reprioritizing** the MFF proposal of 21 February 2020.
- In our view this 21 February MFF proposal already provides for appropriate means for CAP/Cohesion. However, we see room for **frontloading** of Cohesion funds during the first 2 years to kick-start economies and quickly support Member States' actions.
- (10)(2g)
- **Funding:** if necessary we could consider loans to Member States ("loans for loans", as in the SURE proposal), but:
 - 1) should only be temporarily (two years) and only in response to COVID-19;
 - 2) conditions / principles should be laid down in Own Resources Decision and
 - 3) financial liabilities for Member States should be limited and proportional.
- Again, EU borrowing cannot be used to finance the budget and can only be used to provide financial assistance in the form of loans.

[Bilateraal]

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- Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

[Sloveens EU-voorzitterschap]

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- Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

[COVID-19 – exitstrategie]

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- Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

[Passieve punten – worden mogelijk opgebracht door SLV M]

- **Westelijke Balkan:**

Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek
- **Migration:**

Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek	
• RoL:	Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek
Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek	
• MLA:	Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek
Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek	

Achtergrond

[Intro - nieuwe regering]

- Sinds 13 maart 2020 is er een nieuwe regering in Slovenië o.l.v. premier Jansa (rechts-nationalistische SDS-partij). Oudgediende Jansa (eerder premier van 2004-08 en van 2012-13) kwam aan de macht toen op 27 januari jl. premier Sarec het vertrouwen opzegde in zijn centrum/links-liberale minderheidsregering. (10)(2a)
- (10)(2a)
- (10)(2a)
- (10)(2a)

[MEKI]

- (10)(2a)
- (10)(2a)
- (10)(2a)

- In de Sloveense pers is er weinig aandacht voor het Europese begrotingsdebat; NL wordt niet op de korrel genomen zoals in andere Zuid-Europese landen. COVID-19 voert de boventoon in de media. Daarnaast is er volop aandacht voor politieke schandaaltjes, waaraan ook de nieuwe regering niet ontkomt.

[Bilateraal]

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Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

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[EU-voorzitterschap]

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Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

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[COVID-19 – exitstrategie]

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Valt buiten reikwijdte wobverzoek

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