



Your Quaestors:

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Firstly, allow me to express my very best wishes to all MEPs and staff for 2019 and wish us all perseverance with the challenging months ahead, both in terms of Brexit and in the preparations to the forthcoming European elections.

As my term in office drew to an end, I would also like to express heartfelt thanks to my fellow Quaestors for their support which has enabled the realisation of my priorities.

I am also delighted to announce that, following feedback from the readers, a new more user-friendly format for the popular Quaestors' Quarterly will be available for the next edition.



Catherine BEARDER
Quaestor

Ergonomic analysis of the Chamber and meeting rooms in Strasbourg



At my request, an analysis was carried out in order to improve the ergonomics of the working environment in the Chamber and meeting rooms in Strasbourg. Parliament's Chamber seats date from the construction of the Louise Weiss Building in the 1990's. Their shape, functionality, weight and manoeuvrability were determined by safety regulations and are protected by intellectual property laws, but as any MEP will tell you they are really difficult to use. Any measures taken to improve the chairs' manoeuvrability and comfort must take into account the above-mentioned legal limitations, use sustainable, easy-to-maintain materials and respect the general aesthetics and design considerations. These requirements could be met by replacing the existing rolling system and adding

a memory foam base and back which is perfectly integrated into the design of the seat. Trials will start early in 2019, so hopefully you will notice an improvement soon.

Incident relating to inappropriate mail distribution in Members' mailboxes

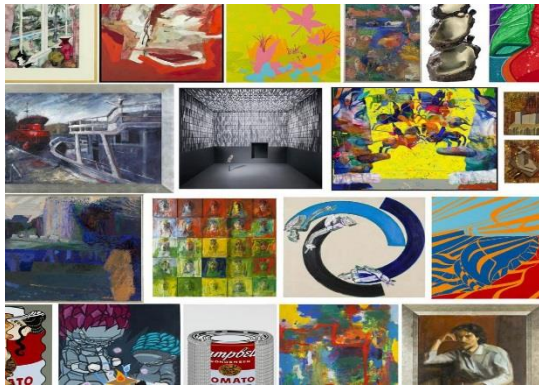
Following the distribution of an inappropriate publication in Members' mailboxes and a subsequent complaint by



many Members, the Parliament's services carried out an investigation into the incident, establishing that the distribution had actually been done by a Member's assistant.

As a result of this incident, the Quaestors re-sent Notice 03/2015 which recalls the mail distribution rules and that only documents related to parliamentary business can be distributed in Members' mailboxes. Members are invited to take note of these rules and also ensure that their assistants and other people in their *entourage* comply with them. ([See Notice 03/2015](#))

Digital promotion of Parliament's art collection



One of my priorities was to explore how to better **promote Parliament's important art collection**, using innovative and digital technologies, in order to render it more visible and bring it closer to the citizens. Having examined various technologies available to showcase Parliament's art collection, the Quaestors have chosen the "Immersive 360 Virtual experience" option. This option works on all devices, uses open source frameworks and standards, and could be implemented rapidly, as it does not require any new hardware and will be developed and managed in-house by Parliament's services, providing thus the best security assurances and value for money. The application is expected to be available to all citizens in the coming months.

News in brief

Refurbishment of the Members' bar in Strasbourg

Following the 2017 extension to the Members' Bar beside the Chamber in Strasbourg, conversion work is needed in the old bar to reconfigure the kitchen and storage area, increase capacity, and install phone charging points, as in the new bar. The refurbishment will take 11 weeks and will be carried out between parliamentary part-sessions.



Distribution of access cards to external participants at the Atrium Welcome Point

From 7 January 2019 all external participants at meetings, events and exhibitions taking place in the European Parliament can receive their **access cards/stickers** in the Atrium Welcome Point which can be reached from the Esplanade Solidarność 1980 or from the rue d'Ardenne. The use of the Welcome Point will permit the distribution of access cards/stickers in a more welcoming and safer environment and protected from any bad weather conditions (See Notice 44/2018).



Electric scooters' pilot project

To enhance Parliament's sustainable mobility policy, a 4-month pilot project is launched in Brussels to test the use of electric scooters for work-related journeys between the EU institutions' buildings and for travel between home and work. Scooter users are required to scrupulously observe the highway code; wear helmets and reflective jackets and also have civil liability insurance. Use of scooters inside buildings is prohibited (See Notice (36/2018)).



For further information

For further information on any of the articles in this edition, please contact one of the Quaestors responsible or the Secretariat at the following address: SecrQuest@ep.europa.eu

Link to the website of the [Quaestors](#)