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NOTE

Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS - FEBRUARY 2016

This document lists the acts adopted by the Council in February 2016.^{1 2}

It provides information on the adoption of legislative acts, including:

- the date of adoption,
- the relevant Council session,
- the number of the document adopted,
- the Official Journal reference,
- applicable voting rules, voting results and, where appropriate, explanations of vote and statements published in the minutes of the Council.

This document also contains information on the adoption of non-legislative acts that the Council has decided to make public.

¹ With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

² In the case of legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure, there may be a difference between the date of the Council's meeting where the legislative act is adopted and the actual date of the act in question, since legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure are only considered to have been adopted after signature by both the President of the Council and the President of the European Parliament and the Secretaries-General of the two institutions.

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INFORMATION ON THE ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY 2016

3445th meeting of the Council of the European Union (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 12 February 2016

LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Directive (EU) 2016/343 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at the trial in criminal proceedings OJ L 65, 11.3.2016, p. 1–11	63/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except: Not participating: DK, IE, UK
<p>Statement by the Commission relating to Article 6 on the burden of proof</p> <p>The Commission regrets the deletion of Article 5, paragraph 2, of its proposal for a Directive on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at trial in criminal proceedings. The Commission considers that the compromise in relation to Article 6 may lead to problems in the implementation of this Directive, in terms of legal certainty, monitoring and operability, which may increase the risk of unnecessary litigation, in particular at national level. However, the Commission does not stand in the way of the adoption of this Directive.</p>			
<p>Statement by the Commission relating to Article 7, paragraph 6, on the right to remain silent and the right not to incriminate oneself</p> <p>The Commission considers that Article 7, paragraph 6, of the Directive on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at the trial in criminal proceedings must be interpreted as merely confirming the possibility for Member States to decide that, with regard to minor offences, the conduct of the proceedings, or certain stages thereof, may take place in writing or without questioning of the suspect or accused person by the competent authorities.</p> <p>In contrast, this provision does not allow derogating from the rights enshrined in Article 7, and it may notably not be interpreted as obliging a suspect to make any statements in relation to the facts at issue or allowing a Member State to draw negative consequences from the exercise of the suspects' right to remain silent.</p>			

Regulation (EU) 2016/424 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on cableway installations and repealing Directive 2000/9/EC (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 81, 31.3.2016, p. 1–50	57/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
<p>Statement by the Commission</p> <p>With regard to recital 65 and the possibility of the European Parliament to be invited to meetings of expert groups, the Commission will implement this recital in accordance with its practice in the implementation of point 15 of the Framework agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission. Meetings of the Comitology Committee are explicitly excluded under this arrangement. Concerning the reference to infringements in the same recital, the Commission considers this misleading as infringements proceeding are discussed with Member States in the context of the procedures set out under Article 258 TFEU.</p> <p>The Commission regrets the adoption of Article 44(5) and recital 64 that creates confusion and legal uncertainty, and may compromise institutional balance. The role of the Comitology Committees which ensure control by Member States on the Commission's exercise of implementing powers is defined only by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011, adopted on the basis of Article 291, third paragraph, TFEU. Therefore, no other secondary legislative act can alter or would need to specify further this role. In particular, the Comitology Committees should not perform the functions which are those of the Commission's Groups of Experts. In addition, the rules of procedures of committees are adopted by the committees on the basis of Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. As such they are to be applied when the Committee exercises its role defined by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. Any reference to rules of procedures outside this context is superfluous and inappropriate. It also risks complicating the functioning of the committee.</p>			
Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on personal protective equipment and repealing Council Directive 89/686/EEC (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 81, 31.3.2016, p. 51–98	58/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except: Against: UK

Statement by the Commission

With regard to recital 52 and the possibility of the European Parliament to be invited to meetings of expert groups, the Commission will implement this recital in accordance with its practice in the implementation of point 15 of the Framework agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission. Meetings of the Comitology Committee are explicitly excluded under this arrangement. Concerning the reference to infringements in the same recital, the Commission considers this misleading as infringements proceeding are discussed with Member States in the context of the procedures set out under Article 258 TFEU.

The Commission regrets the adoption of recital 51 and Article 44 (5) that creates confusion and legal uncertainty, and may compromise institutional balance. The role of the Comitology Committees which ensure control by Member States on the Commission's exercise of implementing powers is defined only by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011, adopted on the basis of Article 291, third paragraph, TFEU. Therefore, no other secondary legislative act can alter or would need to specify further this role. In particular, the Comitology Committees should not perform the functions which are those of the Commission's Groups of Experts. In addition, the rules of procedures of committees are adopted by the committees on the basis of Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. As such they are to be applied when the Committee exercises its role defined by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. Any reference to rules of procedures outside this context is superfluous and inappropriate. It also risks complicating the functioning of the committee.

Statement by the United Kingdom

The UK welcomes those aspects of the legislation which simplify existing single market measures through the alignment of the New Legislative Framework principles, as well as those which remove burdensome requirements in some of the detail. We particularly welcome the improvements made during negotiations to ensure household washing up gloves are out of scope. However, the UK does not support the requirements of the Regulation being extended to oven gloves used in the home. We see this as an unjustified and disproportionate intervention which is not consistent with the Commission's better regulation agenda and its vision to make the Single Market fit for business and consumers - a vision which the UK shares.

Regulation (EU) 2016/426 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on appliances burning gaseous fuels and repealing Directive 2009/142/EC (Text with EEA relevance)
OJ L 81, 31.3.2016, p. 99–147

59/15

Qualified majority

All Member States in favour

Statement by the Commission

With regard to recital 74 and the possibility of the European Parliament to be invited to meetings of expert groups, the Commission will implement this recital in accordance with its practice in the implementation of point 15 of the Framework agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission. Meetings of the Comitology Committee are explicitly excluded under this arrangement. Concerning the reference to infringements in the same recital, the Commission considers this misleading as infringements proceeding are discussed with Member States in the context of the procedures set out under Article 258 TFEU.

The Commission regrets the adoption of Article 42(5) and recital 73 that creates confusion and legal uncertainty, and may compromise institutional balance. The role of the Comitology Committees which ensure control by Member States on the Commission's exercise of implementing powers is defined only by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011, adopted on the basis of Article 291, third paragraph, TFEU. Therefore, no other secondary legislative act can alter or would need to specify further this role. In particular, the Comitology Committees should not perform the functions which are those of the Commission's Groups of Experts. In addition, the rules of procedures of committees are adopted by the committees on the basis of Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. As such they are to be applied when the Committee exercises its role defined by Regulation No (EU) 182/2011. Any reference to rules of procedures outside this context is superfluous and inappropriate. It also risks complicating the functioning of the committee.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Decision (EU) 2016/192 of 12 February 2016 amending Decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks, as regards the external auditors of Národná banka Slovenska OJ L 38, 13.2.2016, p. 7–8	5416/16
Council Decision (EU) 2016/242 of 12 February 2016 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Principality of Andorra providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments OJ L 45, 20.2.2016, p. 10–11	15508/15
Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Principality of Andorra providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments	15510/15

Council Conclusions on Special Report No 10/2015 by the European Court of Auditors: "Efforts to address problems with public procurement in EU cohesion policy expenditure should be intensified"	5058/16
Council Recommendation on discharge to be given to the bodies set up under the TFEU and the Euratom Treaty in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2014	5584/16
Council Recommendation on discharge to be given to the bodies set up under the TFEU and the Euratom Treaty in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2014	5585/16
Council Recommendation on discharge to be given to the joint undertakings in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2014	5587/16
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the serious deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external borders by Greece	5876/1/16 REV 1

Statement by Greece

Greece regrets not to be able to give its consent to the Commission proposal for the Council Recommendation on addressing the “serious” deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external borders by Greece, i.e. at the land and sea borders with Turkey.

Greece wishes to reiterate its position, that the findings of the unannounced evaluation visit carried out from 10 to 13 November 2015 do not constitute “serious deficiencies” and show no evidence that “Greece is seriously neglecting its obligations”.

Greece further underlines that the massive mixed migration flow is of a nature that would put the external border control of any Member State under severe pressure and, moreover, that it has taken a number of measures to deal with the situation (as referred to recital (1a) of the Recommendation). Moreover, we have done so at a substantial national financial and social cost.

In the light of the above, Greece insists on the arguments and comments distributed during the Schengen Committee (room documents) and the arguments reiterated in the Schengen Matters-Schengen Evaluation W.P. and COREPER.

Finally, Greece will continue to work in close cooperation with EU institutions, agencies and other Member States to address the disproportionate migratory pressure, to mobilize resources and to put every effort primarily to protect refugees fleeing from war.

Council Implementing Decision approving the conclusion by Eurojust of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market and Eurojust	11595/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/267 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the United Arab Emirates on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 1–2	7185/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/268 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Saint Lucia on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 3–4	7187/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/269 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Commonwealth of Dominica on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 5–6	7189/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/270 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Grenada on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 7–8	7190/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/271 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 9–10	7191/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/272 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Vanuatu on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 11–12	7192/15

Council Decision (EU) 2016/273 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 13–14	7194/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/274 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Independent State of Samoa on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 15–16	7195/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/275 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 17–18	7196/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/431 of 12 February 2016 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the People's Republic of China on the short-stay visa waiver for holders of diplomatic passports OJ L 76, 23.3.2016, p. 17–18	15466/15
Agreement between the European Union and the People's Republic of China on the short-stay visa waiver for holders of diplomatic passports	15469/15
Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/254 of 12 February 2016 on the launch of automated data exchange with regard to vehicle registration data (VRD) in Latvia OJ L 47, 24.2.2016, p. 8–9	13060/15

Council Decision (EU) 2016/243 of 12 February 2016 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union OJ L 45, 20.2.2016, p. 12–12	15560/15
Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union	15562/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/204 of 12 February 2016 on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Annex XI (Electronic communication, audiovisual services and information society) to the EEA Agreement (ultra-wide band) OJ L 39, 16.2.2016, p. 39–42	15443/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/203 of 12 February 2016 on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Annex XXI (Statistics) to the EEA Agreement (health care expenditure statistics) OJ L 39, 16.2.2016, p. 36–38	15439/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/202 of 12 February 2016 establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EPA Committee set up by the interim Agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part, regarding the adoption of its Rules of Procedure OJ L 39, 16.2.2016, p. 28–35	12151/15
Council Decision (EU) 2016/342 of 12 February 2016 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and Kosovo, of the other part OJ L 71, 16.3.2016, p. 1–2	10725/2/15

Statement by Cyprus

The Republic of Cyprus reiterates its position that it does not recognize the 2008 Unilateral Declaration of Independence by Kosovo and considers that the designation “Kosovo” is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244(1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The Republic of Cyprus further declares that the signing and conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of one part, and Kosovo, of the other part, does not prejudice the position of the Republic of Cyprus on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with national practice and international law, and it does not establish any treaty relations or obligations on behalf of the Republic of Cyprus towards Kosovo.

The use of the legal basis for the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Kosovo, including article 37 of the Treaty on European Union, is without prejudice to the position of the Republic of Cyprus on the international status of Kosovo, and is in conformity with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Furthermore, the signing and conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of the one part, and Kosovo, of the other part does not, in any case create any precedent as to the future relations between the European Union and Kosovo.

Statement by Slovakia

The Slovak Republic declares that its position concerning the Council decisions on the conclusion and signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement is without prejudice to its national position on the status of Kosovo and is in conformity with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Statement by the Kingdom of Spain

Spain's position concerning the Council adoption of the decisions on the signing and on the conclusion of the Stabilization and Association Agreement with Kosovo is without prejudice to the Spanish position on the international status of Kosovo and is in conformity with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The use of the legal basis for the Stabilization and Association Agreement with Kosovo of article 37 of the Treaty of the European Union in relation with article 31 of the Treaty of the European Union, as well as of article 217 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union in relation with article 218 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, is without prejudice to the Spanish position on the international status of Kosovo and is in conformity with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Wording referring Kosovo's European perspective can only be understood as approximation to the EU, without the ultimate objective of EU accession, as the unilateral declaration of independence is not unanimously recognized.

Statement by Romania

Romania shall take note of the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of one part, and Kosovo, of the other part.

Romania reiterates its national position of non-recognition of Kosovo as a State.

The conclusion of the Stabilization and Association Agreement with Kosovo by the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community is done without prejudicing the position of Romania vis-à-vis the status of Kosovo and does not presume in anyway the recognition by Romania of the statehood of Kosovo.

Statement by the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom welcomes the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and of Kosovo, of the other part.

However, the United Kingdom considers that the Agreement contains provisions related to the temporary presence of natural persons for business and readmissions which are pursuant to Title V of Part III of the Treaty on the Functioning of the Union. The United Kingdom recalls that, in accordance with Article 2 of Protocol (No. 21) to the Treaties on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in Respect of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, no provision of any international agreement concluded by the Union pursuant to that Title shall be binding upon or applicable in the United Kingdom unless, in accordance with Article 3 of the Protocol, it notifies its intention that it wishes to take part in the adoption and application of a proposed measure.

As a result, in accordance with Article 3 of Protocol (No. 21), the United Kingdom notified the President of the Council that, to the extent that the Decisions relate to the temporary presence of national persons for business, it intends to take part in the Council Decisions.

Statement by the Commission

The Commission restates once again that it disagrees with the addition of Article 37 TEU as a substantive legal base for the signature and conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and Kosovo of the other part. The legal base of Article 217 TFEU is an all-encompassing legal base, empowering the Union to undertake commitments towards non-member countries in all fields covered by the Treaties, which, following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, also covers CFSP.

Council Decision approving the conclusion by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Agreement extending the Framework Agreement for international collaboration on research and development of Generation IV nuclear energy systems

5297/16

Voting Rule: Qualified Majority

Voting Result: All Member States in favour, except:

Against: AT, DK, LU

Council Conclusions on the fight against the financing of terrorism	6068/16
Council Recommendation on the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014	5583/16 ADD 1 Voting Rule: Qualified Majority Voting Result: All Member States in favour, except: Against: NL, SE, UK

Statement by Sweden and the United Kingdom

With reference to:

- the European Court of Auditors' annual report on the implementation of the EU budget concerning the financial year 2014;
- discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the EU budget for 2014;
- draft Council recommendation on the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014;

The United Kingdom and Sweden:

Strongly regret that, for the 21st consecutive year, the European Court of Auditors has been unable to grant an unqualified Statement of Assurance on the EU budget as a whole and that the overall error rate for expenditure remains significantly above the acceptable 2 % threshold, with only a marginal reduction on last year at 4.4 %;

Highlight the importance of an independent EU-level audit of EU funds and very much welcome the new approach of the European Court of Auditors on performance audit as set out in the 2014 annual report, while regretting the discouraging conclusions from this audit;

Welcome a discussion on how the EU-budget can be designed to better support overall political priorities, generate results and react to unforeseen challenges, and welcomes the Commission's "Budget for Results" initiative in this regard;

Encourage the Commission and the Court to cooperate in identifying practical, operational and measurable targets for EU programmes, primarily through EU-level objectives and partnership agreements, which can translate the EU's political priorities into productive outcomes; together with the most suitable and effective system for measuring performance against such targets;

Point to the fact that the levels of error vary considerably between different expenditure areas and that this calls for a clear focus by the Commission and the Court on areas with high risk of significant errors, with a view to improving rather than necessarily adding more controls;

Strongly urge the Commission and Member States to identify further opportunities to simplify the complex rules and regulatory framework governing EU budget expenditure in order to improve compliance, as well as focussing on ex-ante controls rather than solely ex-post controls in order to help get payments right first time;

Given the large delays in launching the programmes in the 2014-2020 programming period, stress the importance of the Commission and Member States issuing timely and comprehensive guidance and training to ensure correct interpretation of requirements, and urge the Commission toward greater cooperation with Member States to understand and address the underlying causes of systemic and repeated errors;

Regret the Court's assessment that the error rate could have been considerably lower if Member State authorities had made better use of the available information to prevent, detect and correct errors before declaring the expenditure to the Commission;

Disagree with the Commission's proposal to introduce further alternative, multiannual error rates which risk detracting from the Court's independent methodology for estimating the level of error in the EU budget;

Strongly urge the Commission to preserve the unanimously agreed payment ceilings, in particular by: maintaining fiscal discipline in relation to commitments; effectively de-committing unused appropriations in order to make room for new priorities and programmes; increasing transparency by providing long-term forecasts, and ensuring a balance between commitments and payments; and

Draw attention to the Court's recommendation that the Commission should reinforce efforts to reduce excessive cash balances in financial instruments, given that more than €14 bn in unutilised funds remains locked within such instruments, which could be used for more urgent needs and priorities.

Council Conclusions on the budget guidelines for 2017	5588/16
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3446th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES) held in Brussels on 15 February 2016

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
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Council Recommendation of 15 February 2016 on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market OJ C 67, 20.2.2016, p. 1–5	15107/15
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3447th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 15 February 2016

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
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Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/208 of 15 February 2016 amending Decision (CFSP) 2015/260 extending the mandate of the European Union Special Representative for Human Rights OJ L 39, 16.2.2016, p. 47–47	15551/15
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Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/207 of 15 February 2016 amending Decision 2013/233/CFSP on the European Union Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM Libya) OJ L 39, 16.2.2016, p. 45–46	5489/16
Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/220 of 15 February 2016 amending Decision 2011/101/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Zimbabwe OJ L 40, 17.2.2016, p. 11–14	5450/16
Council Regulation (EU) 2016/214 of 15 February 2016 amending Regulation (EC) No 314/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe OJ L 40, 17.2.2016, p. 1–2	5495/16
Council Conclusions on EU priorities at UN Human Rights Fora in 2016	5851/16
<p>Statement by Hungary</p> <p>on "EU Priorities at the UN Human Rights Fora in 2016" – draft Council conclusions (paragraph 14)</p> <p>The adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Beijing Platform for Action marked a remarkable consensus. They placed the enjoyment of human rights at the heart of development and important gains in the fields of health, gender equality and education have been achieved since their adoption. These fields are at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development incorporating as founding principles the universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination. Hungary remains dedicated to its commitments in the field of human rights, including the rights of women. We are deeply committed to the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and Beijing Platform for Action as well as the 2030 Agenda, serving also as basic references in the fields of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. As the term of “sexual and reproductive health and rights” is lacking consensual definition at international level, including within the European Union, Hungary interprets its content and scope in line with the above international commitments and national legislation.</p>	
Council Conclusions on Burundi	5879/16
Council Conclusions on Somalia	5880/16
Council Conclusions on European climate diplomacy after COP21	6049/16
Council Conclusions on the Republic of Moldova	6060/16
Council Conclusions on Belarus	5946/16

3448th meeting of the Council of the European Union (GENERAL AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 16 February 2016			
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS			
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS		
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the Schengen Information System by Austria	5864/1/16		
3449th meeting of the Council of the European Union (EDUCATION, YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT) held in Brussels on 24 February 2016			
LEGISLATIVE ACTS			
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Decision (EU) 2016/344 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in tackling undeclared work (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 65, 11.3.2016, p. 12–20	64/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS			
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS		
Council Conclusions on European Court of Auditor's Special Report No 16/2015 "Improving the security of energy supply by developing the internal energy market: more efforts needed"	6026/16		
Decision (EU) 2016/407 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (application from Belgium EGF/2015/007 — BE/Hainaut-Namur Glass) OJ L 74, 19.3.2016, p. 34–35	5744/16		

Save item Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 24 February 2016 on promoting socioeconomic development and inclusiveness in the EU through education: the contribution of education and training to the European Semester 2016 OJ C 105, 19.3.2016, p. 1–4	5685/16
3450th meeting of the Council of the European Union (JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 25 February 2016	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Decision (EU) 2016/350 of 25 February 2016 on the conclusion of the Arrangement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the modalities of its participation in the European Asylum Support Office OJ L 65, 11.3.2016, p. 61–62	18079/13
Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/280 of 25 February 2016 amending Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 30–33	6178/16
Council Regulation (EU) 2016/277 of 25 February 2016 amending Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 22–23	6193/16
Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/276 of 25 February 2016 implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus OJ L 52, 27.2.2016, p. 19–21	6191/16

3451st meeting of the Council of the European Union (COMPETITIVENESS) held in Brussels on 29 February 2016

LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p. 1–52	36/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except: Not participating: DK, IE, UK
Regulation (EU) 2016/400 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 implementing the safeguard clause and the anti-circumvention mechanism provided for in the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p. 53–61	73/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
Regulation (EU) 2016/401 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 implementing the anti-circumvention mechanism provided for in the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p. 62–64	74/15	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Regulation (EU) 2016/300 of 29 February 2016 determining the emoluments of EU high-level public office holders OJ L 58, 4.3.2016, p. 1–12	5444/16

Statement by Austria	
Austria welcomes the proposed improvements over the current legal situation. However, Austria is unable to approve the proposal as it considers the provisions for deductions laid down in Article 10(3) and (4) in conjunction with recital 6 too generous, and cannot see any justification for the annual automatic update of the entertainment allowance and the special duty allowance as provided for in Article 19.	
Council Decision (EU) 2016/298 of 29 February 2016 on the position to be adopted by the European Union within the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors regarding approval of derogations to the Financial Regulation of the Centre for the Development of the Enterprise (CDE) OJ L 57, 3.3.2016, p. 4–7	5701/16
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation by Belgium	6197/16
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of Schengen Information System by Belgium	6200/16
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the management of the external borders by Belgium	6205/16
Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the report of the evaluation on the implementation of the Schengen Acquis in the field of absence of border control at internal borders between Germany and France	6210/16
Council Conclusions on the Single Market Strategy	6622/16