



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 6 March 2015
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6543/15

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: European semester 2015
- Updated Roadmap

Delegations will find below the above-mentioned roadmap as presented by the Presidency.

This roadmap is a revised version of the roadmap that the incoming Latvian Presidency presented to the December 2014 General Affairs Council, on the 2015 European semester and the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy. The Presidency has decided to update the roadmap following the decision, by the Commission, to postpone the Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review and delayed presentation of other key documents.

The updated roadmap should help ensure that all relevant Council formations, and their preparatory bodies, continue to work in a coordinated and consistent manner and the General Affairs Council and COREPER continue to oversee the process.

The roadmap is divided in two phases: the first until the March European Council, and the second for the period between the European Council meetings in March and June 2015. In the first phase, the Presidency has held discussions on the 2015 Annual Growth Survey in the meetings of the ECOFIN, EPSCO, Competitiveness, Energy, Transport and Environment Council formations¹ in February - March 2015. These debates paid special attention to broader policy initiatives such as Investment plan for Europe, Energy Union and the upcoming Digital Single Market Strategy and Internal Market Strategy for goods and services. The proposed involvement of the Council after the March European Council focuses on the examination and adoption of the Country-specific recommendations (CSRs), following the practice and lessons learned from previous European semester cycles.

¹ The Telecommunications formation contributed in writing.

FIRST PHASE

Run-up to the March European Council

pm. 28 November 2014: Annual Growth Survey 2015

- Adoption, by the Commission, of the Annual Growth Survey 2015 alongside the draft Joint Employment Report and the Alert Mechanism Report

pm. 1-15 December 2014: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States

- State of play of the implementation of Country-specific recommendations

pm. 9 December 2014: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Exchange of views on the Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review
- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and the Alert Mechanism Report: presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

pm. 11 December 2014: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015, the draft Joint Employment Report and the Alert Mechanism Report: presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

pm. 16 December 2014: General Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: presentation by the Commission
- Presentation, by the incoming Presidency, of the 2015 roadmap on the Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review and the European semester
- Europe 2020 mid-term review: Synthesis report of Council discussions
- Preparation of the December European Council: draft European Council conclusions

pm. 18-19 December 2014: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Presidency synthesis report on Council debates on the Europe 2020 mid-term review

2-3 February 2015: Parliamentary week in the framework of the European semester

- Debates between members of relevant committees from the European Parliament and national parliaments

pm. 10 February 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the March European Council: annotated draft agenda

pm. 17 February 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and Alert Mechanism Report: Council conclusions

pm. 26 February 2015:

- Publication of country-specific analysis (country reports) by the Commission, including, where relevant, MIP In-depth reviews

pm. 2 March 2015

- Publication of the Commission Communication on the results of the public consultation on the Europe 2020 strategy, accompanied by an updated report on the state of play on the strategy.
- Adoption, by the Commission, of proposals for Employment guidelines and Broad Economic Policy Guidelines

pm. 2-3 March 2015: Competitiveness Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchanges of views on the Internal Market, Industrial competitiveness, and Research and Innovation aspects. Adoption of Council conclusions on the Future EU Single Market Policy.

pm. 5 March 2015: Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Energy)

- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and energy policy: Discussions on Energy Infrastructure, with reference *inter alia* to the Annual Growth Survey 2015

pm. 6 March 2015: Environment Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchange of views on greening the European semester, with a focus on the potential of resource efficiency and ICT for the green economy

pm. by early March 2015:

- Approval of 2015 work programmes by EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC

9 March 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchange of views and Council conclusions (including on health aspects of the 2015 AGS)
- Joint Employment Report: adoption
- SPC report on the social situation in the EU: Endorsement of key messages
- Country reports: presentation by the Commission
- Employment Guidelines: presentation by the Commission

10 March 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- European semester country reports: Presentation by the Commission

11 March 2015: European Parliament plenary session

- Joint debate on the European Semester 2015

13 March 2015: Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Transport)

- Contribution to the EU competitiveness, growth and jobs through transport policy developments: exchange of views

March to May:

- EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC preparatory work on country reports, including, where relevant, MIP In-depth reviews

17 March 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the March European Council:
 - Draft conclusions
 - Synthesis report on Council contributions on the 2015 European semester²
 - Updated roadmap on the 2015 European semester

19-20 March 2015: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Exchange of views on the economic situation
- Guidance to Member States for their 2015 Stability and Convergence Programmes and National Reform Programmes

² Including telecommunications aspects, based on written contributions from delegations

SECOND PHASE

Run-up to June European Council

March - April 2015: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States

- State of play
- Outstanding country-specific issues

mid-April 2015:

- Further to the guidance provided by the European Council, Member States submit their National Reform Programmes and Stability or Convergence Programmes

12 May 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure (MIP) - In depth-reviews: Council conclusions

19 May 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the June European Council: annotated draft agenda

mid-May 2015 [date depends on the timing of the national documents]:

- Commission to present its proposals for the Country opinions and the Country-specific recommendations (CSR)
- Immediately after CSR publication, division of labour and coordination and cooperation arrangements between committees as well as the methods for consolidating committee views will be confirmed

18-19 May 2015: Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council

- Strategic framework “Education and Training 2020” mid-term review: policy debate

End-May - early June:

- EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC preparatory work on Country-specific recommendations³

³ With inputs from the Education Committee and the Working Party on Public Health (Senior level)

18 June 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- (Poss.) Employment guidelines: General approach
- Approval of 2015 Country-specific recommendations on Member States' employment and social policies and draft explanatory note
- Endorsement of the opinions of EMCO and SPC on the National Reform Programmes 2015 and the implementation of the 2014 Country-specific recommendations
- Endorsement of the Employment Performance Monitor and benchmarks
- Assessment of the 2015 CSR package on cross-cutting issues: SPC Report

(Poss.) 19 June 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (Health)

- (Poss.) Exchange of views on the enhanced involvement of the health sector in European Semester

19 June 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Approval of 2015 Country-specific recommendations and Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes and draft explanatory note
- Approval of Council recommendation on the implementation of the Broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States whose currency is the euro
- (Poss.) Implementation of the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure (MIP)
- (Poss.) Broad Economic Policy Guidelines

23 June 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the European Council: draft conclusions
- Approval of integrated Country-specific recommendations and transmission to the European Council

25-26 June 2015: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Endorsement of integrated Country-specific recommendations

14 July 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Adoption of integrated Country-specific recommendations