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NOTE

Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS DECEMBER 2014

This document lists the acts adopted by the Council in November 2014.^{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.

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.

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

This document is also available on the Council's website at:

[Monthly summaries of Council acts \(acts\) - Consilium](#)

Documents listed in the summary may be obtained from the public register of Council documents at: [Documents and publications - Consilium](#)

It should be noted that this document is exclusively for information purposes- only Council minutes are authentic. These are available on the Council's website at: [Council Minutes - Consilium](#)

INFORMATION ON THE ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL IN DECEMBER 2014

3351st meeting of the Council of the European Union (EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 1 December 2014

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
2014/871/EU: Council Decision of 1 December 2014 on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, at the Eighth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents with regard to the proposal for an amendment of Annex I to that Convention OJ L 349, 5.12.2014, p. 50–57	15610/14
Council Decision on authorising the opening of negotiations on the amendment of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	15615/14
Council Decision 2014/860/CFSP of 1 December 2014 amending and extending Decision 2012/173/CFSP on the activation of the EU Operations Centre for the Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operation in the Horn of Africa OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 32–34	14291/14

Council Implementing Decision 2014/863/CFSP of 1 December 2014 implementing Decision 2013/798/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Central African Republic OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 52–55	15551/14
Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1276/2014 of 1 December 2014 implementing Article 17(1) of Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 19–22	15556/14
Council Implementing Decision 2014/862/CFSP of 1 December 2014 implementing Decision 2010/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic Republic of the Congo OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 36–51	15550/14
Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1275/2014 of 1 December 2014 implementing Article 9(1) and (4) of Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 3–18	15552/14

Council Decision 2014/861/CFSP of 1 December 2014 amending Decision 2012/699/CFSP on the Union support for the activities of the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation in order to strengthen its monitoring and verification capabilities and in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction OJ L 346, 2.12.2014, p. 35–35	14978/14
Council Conclusions on vaccinations as an effective tool in public health OJ C 438, 6.12.2014, p. 3–6	15090/14
Council Conclusions on patient safety and quality of care, including the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance OJ C 438, 6.12.2014, p. 7–11	15441/14
Council Conclusions on innovation for the benefit of patients OJ C 438, 6.12.2014, p. 12–15	15838/14

Written procedure completed on 1 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
2014/857/EU: Council Decision of 1 December 2014 concerning the notification of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of its wish to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis which are contained in acts of the Union in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters and amending Decisions 2000/365/EC and 2004/926/EC OJ L 345, 1.12.2014, p. 1–5	13146/14
3352nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY) held in Brussels on 3 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Conclusions on Transport infrastructure and the Trans European Network	16363/14

3353rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (COMPETITIVENESS (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)) held in Brussels on 4 and 5 December 2014

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Conclusions on IPR Enforcement	15321/14
Council Conclusions concerning the Court of Auditors' Special Report No 2/2014: Are preferential trade arrangements appropriately managed?	13205/14 REV 2
2014/953/EU: Council Decision of 4 December 2014 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and European Atomic Energy Community and the Swiss Confederation associating the Swiss Confederation to Horizon 2020 — the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community complementing Horizon 2020, and regulating the Swiss Confederation's participation in the ITER activities carried out by Fusion for Energy OJ L 370, 30.12.2014, p. 1–2	15364/14

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission takes note that an agreement was reached by unanimity on Article 2 of the proposal for a Council decision on signature and provisional application of the Agreement. The Commission recalls its views that the signature of an international agreement is an act of external representation of the Union, which the Commission is entrusted to do in line with Art. 17(1) TEU".

2014/954/Euratom: Council Decision of 4 December 2014 approving the conclusion by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and European Atomic Energy Community and the Swiss Confederation associating the Swiss Confederation to Horizon 2020 — the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community complementing Horizon 2020, and regulating the Swiss Confederation's participation in the ITER activities carried out by Fusion for Energy
OJ L 370, 30.12.2014, p. 19–20

15372/14

<p>Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for an agreement amending the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement), with a view of enlarging its geographical scope and for an agreement on international regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus</p>	<p>15601/14</p>
<p>Statement by Romania</p> <p>Romania fully supports the objective of the conclusion of an agreement amending the “Interbus Agreement” on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus to enlarge its geographical scope and for an agreement on international regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus. Romania strongly believes that this revision will be in the interest of both EU Member States and EU neighbouring countries. However, Romania is concerned that during the negotiations, which may prove lengthy, Member States will not be able to revise or update the existing bilateral agreements, even if this proves necessary. This may negatively impact Member States’ bilateral relations with neighbouring countries.</p> <p>In this context, Romania expresses its hope that negotiations will be concluded swiftly and recalls that loyal cooperation requires an appropriate exchange of information between the European institutions and Member States which should allow the latter to maintain their functional cooperation in this field with the neighbouring countries.</p>	

Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany sticks to its opinion, according to which it will not agree to a negotiating mandate for the European Commission if this mandate also empowers the Commission to negotiate, in a Community agreement, rules governing motor vehicle tax, in particular reciprocal exemption, with third countries.

Fiscal rules should never be a component of legal acts relating to transport. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany believes that a negotiating mandate, plus a Council decision on the conclusion of an enlarged Interbus Agreement, should at any rate also be based on Article 113 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Germany thus welcomes the opinion of the Council's Legal Service on the European Commission's statement in connection with the granting of the negotiating mandate on the Interbus Agreement. The same applies to the statements made on the issue of the negotiating guidelines.

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission does not consider it necessary that a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations indicates a substantive legal basis. The Commission will conduct the negotiations in accordance with the rules laid down in the Treaties, in particular in consultation with the special committee designated by the Council. However, the Commission does not consider that the special committee (or indeed the Council) can decide the position to be taken, in whatever form, nor that that committee (or the Council) can establish guidance to be taken into account in a compulsory manner by the negotiator in the relevant negotiating sessions. The Commission is also of the view that the Council cannot impose any obligation on the negotiator as to the conduct of negotiations.

The Commission recalls that, to the extent it concerns exclusive Union competence the Member States are entitled to adopt legally binding acts, including the review, renegotiation and conclusion of bilateral international agreements only insofar as they are empowered to do so by Union institutions. Such empowerment cannot be provided for in negotiating directives addressed to the Commission.

As regards the information Member States commit to provide to the Commission in regard to their international activities in this area, the Commission recalls that loyal cooperation requires that such information be provided prior to the start of any negotiations.

The Commission will act in accordance with the Treaties, as explained above."

Council counter-statement:	
"The Council considers that the Commission's statement misinterprets the Treaty and the relevant case law of the Court of Justice, as explained in the opinion of the Council Legal Service. However, as these issues are presently before the Court of Justice, the Council does not consider it appropriate to enter into a public discussion and detailed rebuttal of the Commission's statement."	
Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 10/2014 from the European Court of Auditors on "Effectiveness of European Fisheries Fund support for aquaculture"	15537/14
Council Conclusions on Smart Regulation	16000/14
Council Conclusions on the EU Strategy and Action Plan on customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade	15403/14
Council Conclusions on the Industrial Competitiveness Agenda	15890/14
Council Conclusions on Strengthening tourism by leveraging Europe's cultural, natural and maritime heritage	16535/14
Council Conclusions on a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area	16421/14

Council Conclusions on European Research Area Progress Report 2014	16599/14
Council Conclusions on Research and Innovation as sources of renewed growth	16425/14
Council Conclusions on "Underpinning the European space renaissance: orientations and future challenges"	16502/14
<p>Statement by Austria</p> <p>Austria welcomes the Council conclusions, but notes in respect of point 11 that this is not the proper place to discuss remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS - drones). These aircraft systems are not spacecraft as such and thus do not fall within the purview of European space policy. In this connection we would point out that a policy debate on the safe and sustainable civil use of remotely piloted aircraft systems was held at the Council of the European Union (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 8 October 2014. At that meeting, Austria, in common with other Member States, expressed concerns over RPAS (primarily on grounds of aircraft and flight safety, and data protection) which have not yet been addressed. The sensitive issue of RPAS should therefore continue to be dealt with by the ministers responsible for air transport in future. These present conclusions must not in any way prejudice future negotiations.</p> <p>In addition, we should like to point out that Austria has always argued that Europe's space-related activities should focus on peaceful uses. Austria understands the conclusions to mean that this will continue to be the aim in future.</p>	

Written procedure completed on 4 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Decision 2014/872/CFSP of 4 December 2014 amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine, and Decision 2014/659/CFSP amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP OJ L 349, 5.12.2014, p. 58–60	15046/14 REV 3
Council Regulation (EU) No 1290/2014 of 4 December 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine, and amending Regulation (EU) No 960/2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 OJ L 349, 5.12.2014, p. 20–24	15638/14 REV 1

3354th meeting of the Council of the European Union (JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 4 and 5 December 2014**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
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Council Conclusions on the role of law enforcement cooperation in combating food crime	15623/14
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Council Resolution on the creation of an operational network - @ON - to counter mafia- style serious and organised crime groups	14929/14
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2014/911/EU: Council Decision of 4 December 2014 on the launch of automated data exchange with regard to dactyloscopic data in Latvia OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p. 28–29	15445/14
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Council Conclusions on an updated Information Management Strategy (IMS) for EU internal security	15701/14 REV 1
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Council Conclusions on the development of a renewed European Union Internal Security Strategy	15670/14
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Statement by the United Kingdom

Recalling that the remit for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights is limited to carrying out its tasks within the former first pillar – and does not include Police and Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters – the United Kingdom notes that the Fundamental Rights Agency's role within the implementation of the JHA aspects of the Internal Security Strategy should be focused on work in the area of border security.

Council Conclusions "Training of legal practitioners: an essential tool to consolidate the EU acquis"	16142/14
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Council Conclusions on combating organised crime infiltration in the legal economy through financial flow traceability and monitoring, in particular regarding public procurement	13311/14
2014/888/EU: Council Decision of 4 December 2014 on the approval, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Railway Rolling Stock, adopted in Luxembourg on 23 February 2007 OJ L 353, 10.12.2014, p. 9–12	15113/13
2014/887/EU: Council Decision of 4 December 2014 on the approval, on behalf of the European Union, of the Hague Convention of 30 June 2005 on Choice of Court Agreements OJ L 353, 10.12.2014, p. 5–8	12052/14
Council Conclusions on the sustainability of e-CODEX	15774/14
Council Conclusions on the promotion and protection of the rights of the child	15559/14

3355th meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY) held in Brussels on 9 December 2014

LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Position (EU) No 2/2015 of the Council at first reading with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources Adopted by the Council on 9 December 2014 OJ C 50, 12.2.2015, p. 1–25	10710/14 + REV 2 ADD 1	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Against: BE Abstention: PT

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission regrets that, with regard to its original proposal, the Council position at first reading has significantly lowered the level of ambition in mitigating the ILUC impacts of conventional biofuels and contains no significant incentives for the transition towards advanced biofuels and other non-ILUC options for using renewable energy in transport. The Commission also regrets that modifications introduced by the Council reduce the level of environmental ambition of the overall renewable energy target set by the Renewable Energy Directive .

However, in order to allow the legislative process to move forward, the Commission will not oppose the Council's position at first reading.

The Commission will therefore continue to closely cooperate with the co-legislators in the next steps of the legislative procedure. The Commission aims at keeping the elements of the proposal which can contribute to mitigate the ILUC impacts and preserve the overall level of environmental ambition of biofuels use in transport, including some of the elements which are part of the position at first reading of the European Parliament. The Commission will do so in the hope that a solution reflecting the European interest in combating negative environmental effects of conventional biofuels can be found."

Statement by Denmark and Luxembourg

"Denmark and Luxembourg support the political agreement reached on the planned changes to the Directive with the goal of preventing indirect land use changes in connection with the use of biofuels.

In the course of the trilogues, however, Denmark and Luxembourg will support improvements increasing the effect of the Directive, including a more binding character of the target for advanced biofuels and a more resolutely addressing of the ILUC issue.

Denmark and Luxembourg once again confirm their position that multiple counting of renewable energies towards the overall target should be avoided as this would effectively result in a reduction of the target values for renewable energies agreed in 2009. This incentive for certain biofuels should only be applicable for the sectoral target for transport."

Statement by Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia

"Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia would like to express their concerns about the persistently unsatisfactory situation of the status quo of mutual recognition of certification systems, which is the result of not achieving unanimity for the proposal of the European Commission about a temporary solution.

Furthermore, we are concerned about the fact that the new system for the recognition of national certification systems on sustainability criteria for biofuels and bioliquids will not enter into force until the harvest 2014. On the contrary, this unacceptable situation, which might disturb the internal market, may last even one or two years longer.

In order to secure a well-functioning internal market we therefore appeal to the European Commission to urgently elaborate an acceptable solution, which allows for a fluent shift of the certificates from one system to another. Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia remain open for every successful approach."

Statement by Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia appreciate the efforts of the Hellenic Presidency towards the achievement of a compromise and despite of concerns regarding some of its elements would like to confirm support for the compromise package.

However, it needs to be emphasised that adopted solutions have a significant impact on investments that already have been established. In this respect, we believe that 7% share of energy from biofuels produced from cereal and other starch rich crops, sugars and oil crops is the lowest acceptable target level that ensures an appropriate level of stability

Having regard to the above, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia will further support the directive during the legislation process only if this crucial issue will not be a subject of any further modification.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
2014/889/EU: Council Decision of 9 December 2014 establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the General Council of the World Trade Organization on the accession of the Republic of Seychelles to the World Trade Organization OJ L 353, 10.12.2014, p. 13–14	14899/14

Statement by the Commission

The Commission welcomes the adoption of the Council Decision establishing the EU position in favour of the accession of the Republic of Seychelles.

The Commission notes that it is proposed that a Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council be adopted on this accession by common accord as regards the position of the Member States in the WTO. The Commission notes that it would have been possible to adopt an EU decision which would have rendered such a separate decision unnecessary.

Statement by Ireland

The provisions relating to the temporary presence of natural persons for business purposes included in the (above) Decision(s) only bind Ireland as part of the Union where it has notified its wish to participate in the above Decision(s) in accordance with Protocol No.21 on the position of Ireland and the United Kingdom in respect of the area of Freedom, Security and Justice. Ireland will ensure that the temporary presence of natural persons for business purposes is allowed in accordance with those provisions.

Statement by the United Kingdom

The provisions relating to the temporary presence of natural persons for business purposes included in the above Decision only bind the United Kingdom as part of the Union where it has notified its wish to participate in the above Decision in accordance with Protocol No.21 on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in respect of the area of Freedom, Security and Justice."

Council Conclusions on the completion of the Internal Energy Market

16037/14

3356th meeting of the Council of the European Union (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 9 December 2014**LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Council Directive 2014/107/EU of 9 December 2014 amending Directive 2011/16/EU as regards mandatory automatic exchange of information in the field of taxation OJ L 359, 16.12.2014, p. 1–29	14425/14	Unanimity	All member states in favour

Statement by Austria

"Austria commits to undertake its best efforts to ensure that – if it is technically feasible – automatic exchange of information on the basis of the revised Directive on Administrative Cooperation will be implemented earlier than 30 September 2018."

Statement by the Council

"Taking into account the Council conclusions of 22 May 2013, and in order to achieve a smooth transition to the new single global standard, the Council invites the Commission to present a proposal to repeal the Savings Taxation Directive (2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003), as amended, and to coordinate the repealing of that Directive with the date of application of the revised Directive on Administrative Cooperation with due regard to the derogation provided therein for Austria. In this respect, it should be ensured that Directive 2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003 continue to apply to this Member State during the derogation period."

Statement by the Council

"The Council confirms the importance of revising the existing EU savings agreements with Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Switzerland to bring them into line with the Global Standard on automatic exchange of information."

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS**ACT****DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS**

2014/899/EU: Council Decision of 9 December 2014 concerning the accession of Croatia to the Convention of 23 July 1990 on the elimination of double taxation in connection with the adjustment of profits of associated enterprises
OJ L 358, 13.12.2014, p. 19–24

15224/14

Statement By Croatia

"The term 'serious penalty' means a penalty for all taxation-related offences laid down in the General Tax Act and special tax laws, and a penalty for economic crimes laid down in the Criminal Code."

Statement By Ireland

"Ireland will regard as 'serious penalties' those where criminal proceedings are being taken, or have been taken, in the particular case because serious tax evasion was suspected."

Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations for an agreement between the European Union and Norway on administrative cooperation, combating fraud and recovery of claims in the field of value-added tax	15942/14
Council Conclusions on Finance for Growth and Long-Term Financing of the European Economy	16183/14
<p>Statement by Germany "Germany welcomes the Draft Council Conclusions. However, it currently does not see any need for a further reform of the EU accounting framework after the Accounting Directive 2013/34/EU has only recently been come into force and is about to be implemented by member states."</p>	
2014/919/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 9 December 2014 amending Implementing Decision 2013/463/EU on approving the macroeconomic adjustment programme for Cyprus OJ L 363, 18.12.2014, p. 145–148	12663/14

Council Conclusions on the Code of Conduct (Business Taxation)	16846/14
<p>Statement by the Netherlands</p> <p>The Netherlands fully supports the objective of ending aggressive tax planning and to put a stop on innovation/patent boxes that encourage profit shifting and on the trading of patents only for the purpose to move them to the most favourable tax regime. The Netherlands therefore welcomes the German-British proposal on the modified nexus approach and supports stricter rules on IP regimes among others the formula for the level of qualified expenditure (lift up), a tracking and tracing system and excluding trademarks and marketing from the IP regime.</p> <p>An inclusive definition of ‘IP assets’, meaning patent and non patent research & development, would help to promote innovation in the EU, enabling the EU to compete in the global arena for knowledge and ideas and to achieve our Europe2020 goals. The EU’s aim is to boost real innovation including innovation in SMEs. SMEs would in practice be excluded from pure patent boxes, as an application for patents is in many cases too expensive for SMEs. It is evident that SMEs have enough ‘nexus’ with the Member State. Such an inclusive definition of ‘IP assets’ has to be elaborated in the OECD.</p> <p>For the Netherlands it is important that IP regimes are not limited to patents, but could also cover other innovations derived from R&D, provided that such activities have been certified by a competent government authority (not being the tax authorities), so that the linkage between R&D, IP-assets and profits (tracking and tracing) can be ensured.</p>	

3357th meeting of the COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs) held in Brussels on 11 December 2014

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT

DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS

Conclusions of the Council of the European Union and the representatives of the governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council on the review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action by the Member States and the EU institutions

16304/14

Statement by Malta Paragraphs 14, 16 and 20(k)

"While recognising the contribution of the EIGE's Report "Beijing + 20: the 4th Review of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the EU Member States" and acknowledging that the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development should indeed contribute to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, Malta would like to recall that any recommendation or commitments made by the European Union in relation to critical areas of concern under the Beijing Platform for Action, including any development of indicators, should in *no way create an obligation on any party to consider abortion as a legitimate form of reproductive health or rights or commodities.*"

Statement by Germany Paragraph 20(i)

"Germany welcomes the Council Conclusions.

Regarding Para 20(i), Germany recalls Resolution 68/309 of the UN General Assembly, in which the UN General Assembly welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals shall be the main basis for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into the post-2015 agenda.

Germany supports the decision of the UN General Assembly and is committed to preserve the substance of the proposal in its entirety. In this context, we understand Paragraph 20 (i) as a confirmation of the proposal of the Open Working Group."

Statement by Hungary

"The adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 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.

Hungary remains dedicated to its commitments in the field of human rights and to the implementation of the Programme of Action and Platform for Action as primary points of reference to the terms of sexual health, reproductive health and reproductive rights. As the term "sexual and reproductive health and rights" remains undefined, Hungary can only interpret "sexual and reproductive health and rights" in line with its national legislation."

3358th meeting of the Council of the European Union (EDUCATION, YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT) held in Brussels on 12 December 2014

LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Council Decision of 12 December 2014 adopting the Council's position on the new draft budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 OJ C 461, 20.12.2014, p. 13–14	16707/14	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Abstention: UK
Council's position on draft amending budget No 3/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 8	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Against: NL, SE,UK
Council's position on draft amending budget No 4/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 9	Qualified majority	All member states in favour
Council's position on draft amending budget No 5/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 10	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Abstention: UK
Council's position on draft amending budget No 6/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 11	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Abstention: UK

Council's position on draft amending budget No 7/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 12	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Abstention: UK
Council's position on draft amending budget No 8/2014 to the general budget for 2014	16707/14 ADD 13	Qualified majority	All member states in favour, except: Abstention: UK
<p>Joint statement on draft amending budget No 6/2014 (own resources) and amendment of Council Regulation 1150/2000</p> <p>"The European Parliament and the Council agree to adopt draft amending budget No 6/2014 as amended by Amending Letter 1/2014. In light of the Commission proposal to amend Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1150/2000 implementing Decision 2007/436 (EC, Euratom) on the system of the European Communities' own resources presented by the Commission on 12 November 2014, the European Parliament commits to provide its opinion to the amended Regulation 1150/2000 in time to ensuring its adoption in the EP plenary session of December 2014 and the Council to adopt it as part of the overall package."</p>			

Joint statement on the mobilisation of the Contingency Margin

"2014 has seen an unprecedented high amount of outstanding payments for structural and cohesion funds at the beginning of the financial framework, while a number of new programmes have been significantly frontloaded. Given this unique and exceptional situation which cannot be accommodated within the payment ceiling for 2014, the three institutions agree that the Contingency Margin will be mobilised for the financial year 2014 as a last resort.

The institutions recall that Article 13 of the MFF-regulation stipulates that "Amounts made available through the mobilisation of the Contingency Margin shall be fully offset against the margins in one or more MFF headings for the current or future financial years".

The institutions agree to do their utmost to find appropriate solutions so that the exceptionally high level of outstanding payments of the structural and cohesion funds of the 2007-2013 period should not persist beyond 2014 and that, therefore, all efforts will be undertaken to ensure that the Contingency Margin will not be mobilised to finance outstanding commitments stemming from programmes for structural and cohesion funds in the financial years 2015-2020."

Joint statement on special instruments

"The institutions recall that the Contingency Margin is a last resort instrument which should therefore not be mobilised if there are still financial possibilities left. In the framework of the general budget for 2014 there is disagreement as to whether an amount of EUR 350 million in payment appropriations covering other special instruments is still available in the unallocated margin.

The institutions agree that it is of major importance to find an agreement in principle on the mobilisation of other special instruments for payments as quickly as possible.

However, as it has not been possible to reach such an agreement in the context of the negotiations of the package covering DABs for 2014 and the general budget for 2015 the institutions agree, so as to ensure a timely adoption of that package:

- the amount of EUR 350 million in payment appropriations is added to the Contingency Margin;
- to endeavour to find a rapid agreement on whether and to what extent other special instruments may be mobilised over and above the MFF ceilings for payments with a view to determining whether and to what extent the amount of EUR 350 million should be offset against the MFF margins for payments for current or future financial years;
- to accompany – as appropriate – the above by the necessary modifications of the decision mobilising the Contingency Margin for the budget year 2014, or by any other legally necessary actions required to ensure full respect of the MFF Regulation and notably its Article 13(3)."

Joint statement on the financing of the emergency measures in response to the Russian food import ban

"Following the Russian food import ban, a series of emergency measures has already been adopted in August and September 2014, and a further package targeted to the dairy sector in the Baltic States has been approved on 26 November 2014. As soon as the conditions respecting the objective criteria required for eligibility are met, the Commission may propose another package targeted to the dairy sector in Finland.

In its Amending Letter (AL) 1/2015, the Commission announced its intention to finance, if needed, these measures through the reserve for crises.

Since the presentation of the AL 1/2015, the following three new elements have emerged, which allow the financing of those emergency measures without using the crisis reserve:

- according to the declarations of the Member States on the actual uptake of the measures adopted in August and September, the cost is reduced from the initially estimated EUR 344 million to some EUR 234 million;
- the final surplus of the EAGF exercise 2014 is some EUR 230 million higher than anticipated in the AL 1/2015, which was still based on estimates;
- the financial corrections to be collected in 2015 are expected to be higher than initially expected last October."

Based on these three new elements, the emergency measures referred to above (including those related to the dairy sector in the Baltic States, and for Finland once the conditions are met) can be financed within the appropriations requested in the AL 1/2015 thanks to this additional assigned revenue without having recourse to the crisis reserve."

Joint statement on Payment appropriations

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission recall their shared responsibility, as laid down in Article 323 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), that ‘the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission shall ensure that the financial means are made available to allow the Union to fulfil its legal obligations in respect of third parties’.

The European Parliament and the Council recall the need to ensure, in the light of implementation, an orderly progression of payments in relation to the appropriations for commitments so as to avoid any abnormal level of unpaid invoices at year-end.

The European Parliament and the Council agree to set the level of payment appropriations for 2015 at EUR 141 214 040 563. They ask the Commission to initiate any necessary action, on the basis of the provisions of the MFF Regulation and the Financial Regulation, to cover the responsibility assigned by the Treaty and, in particular, after having examined the scope for reallocation of the relevant appropriations, with particular reference to any expected under-implementation of appropriations (Financial Regulation Article 41§2) to request additional payment appropriations in an amending budget to be presented as soon as it appears that appropriations entered in the 2015 budget are insufficient to cover expenditure.

The European Parliament and the Council will take position on any draft amending budget as quickly as possible in order to avoid any shortfall in payment appropriations. The European Parliament and the Council undertake to process swiftly any possible transfer of payment appropriations, including across financial framework headings, in order to make the best possible use of payment appropriations entered in the budget and align them to actual execution and needs.

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission will, throughout the year, actively monitor the state of implementation of the 2015 budget, in particular under sub heading 1a (Competitiveness for Growth and Jobs), sub heading 1b (Economic, social and territorial cohesion) and rural development under heading 2 (Sustainable Growth: Natural Resources). This will take the form of dedicated inter-institutional meetings, in accordance with point 36 of the Annex of the Interinstitutional Agreement, to take stock of payment implementation and revised forecasts.

These meetings should take place at least three times in 2015 (in spring at the time of the presentation of the draft budget, in July ahead of the Council reading on the 2016 draft budget and in October before the beginning of the Conciliation) and be at political level in the presence of Members of the European Parliament, Members of the Council and the Commission Vice-President for Budget and Human Resources. The meetings should aim at reaching a joint assessment of the required level of payment needs, based on a thorough analysis of existing bills that have to be legally honoured and estimates for the rest of the year N and the year N+1.

Joint statement on a payment plan

"The institutions agree to the objective to reduce the level of unpaid bills, with a particular focus on cohesion policy, at year-end down to its structural level in the course of the current MFF.

In order to reach this objective:

- the Commission agrees to present, along with the joint conclusions on Budget 2015, a most up to date forecast of the level of unpaid bills by end 2014; the Commission will update these figures and provide alternative scenarios in March 2015 when a global picture of the level of unpaid bills at the end of 2014, for the main policy areas, will be available;
- on this basis, the three institutions will endeavour to agree on a maximum target level of unpaid bills at year-end which can be considered as sustainable;
- on this basis and while respecting the MFF Regulation, the agreed financial envelopes of the programmes as well as any other binding agreement, the three institutions will engage to implement, as of 2015, a plan to reduce the level of unpaid bills corresponding to the implementation of the 2007-2013 programmes to the commonly agreed level by the mid-term review of the current multiannual financial framework. Such a plan will be agreed by the three institutions in due time before the presentation of the draft budget 2016. Given the exceptionally high level of unpaid bills, the three institutions agree to consider any possible means to reduce the level of those bills.

Every year, the Commission agrees to accompany its draft budget by a document evaluating the level of unpaid bills and explaining how the draft budget will allow for the reduction of this level and by how much. This annual document will take stock of the progress made so far and propose adjustments to the plan in line with updated figures."

Statement by the Commission on pre-financing of Operational Programmes in 2014 and the Youth Employment Initiative

"In the context of the timely and effective implementation of the 2014-2020 MFF, the European Commission confirms the pre-financing, in 2014, of Operational Programmes which have been formally submitted in 2014 and which meet the necessary conditions set in the corresponding legal acts. Moreover, the Commission confirms that the Youth Employment Initiative remains a high political priority and that the transfer of the related payment appropriations from 2014 to 2015 will not delay its implementation."

Statement by the Council on the mobilisation of the special instruments

"The Council recalls that the special instruments can only be activated to cater for genuinely unforeseen circumstances.

It recalls that the Contingency Margin shall not result in exceeding the total ceilings of commitment and payment appropriations.

As regards other special instruments, the Council recalls that Article 3(2) of the MFF Regulation states that commitment appropriations may be entered in the budget over and above the ceilings of the relevant headings.

The Council invites the Commission, in calculating the global margin, to act in accordance with the MFF Regulation and without undermining the agreement reached between the three institutions on a Joint Statement on special instruments (3.3)."

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Decision (EU) 2015/421 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument OJ L 68, 13.3.2015, p. 45–46	16708/14
Decision (EU) 2015/422 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund OJ L 68, 13.3.2015, p. 47–47	16709/14
Decision (EU) 2015/436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 6–6	16710/14

Decision (EU) 2015/437 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 7–7	16711/14
Decision (EU) 2015/435 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the Contingency Margin OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 4–5	16713/14
Council Decision 2013/760/CFSP of 13 December 2013 amending Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria OJ L 335, 14.12.2013, p. 50–51	15019/14
Council Regulation (EU) No 1323/2014 of 12 December 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria OJ L 358, 13.12.2014, p. 1–6	15154/14
Council conclusions on entrepreneurship in education and training OJ C 17, 20.1.2015, p. 2–7	14402/14
Council conclusions on promoting young people’s access to rights in order to foster their autonomy and participation in civil society OJ C 18, 21.1.2015, p. 1–4	15613/14

3359th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 12 December 2014**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Conclusions on "A stronger role of the private sector in development cooperation: An action-oriented perspective."	16123/14
Council Conclusions on the Action Plan on Nutrition	16125/14
Council Conclusions on the 2014 Annual Report on the European Union's development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2013	14495/14

Council Conclusions on Migration in EU Development Cooperation	16901/14
Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the West African States, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part	13368/14
<p>Statement by Portugal</p> <p>"In accordance with the principle of the distribution of competences between the European Union and its Member States, as defined by the Treaties, the Council Decision authorising the provisional application of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the West African States, ECOWAS and the UEMOA, of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part, shall not affect the autonomy of decision of Portugal on issues within its national competence, whose decision to be bound by the Agreement depends on the conclusion of the internal ratification procedures, in accordance with its constitutional principles and rules."</p>	
3360th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES) held in Brussels on 15 and 16 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Decision of 15 December 2014 on the granting of a State aid by the authorities of the Republic of Cyprus in the form of a tax exemption on motor fuel used for agricultural purposes between 1 July and 31 December 2014	15254/14
Council Conclusions on Special Report No 4/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Integration of EU water policy objectives with the CAP: a partial success"	15563/14

Council Conclusions on Special Report No 8/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Has the Commission effectively managed the integration of coupled support into the Single Payment Scheme?"	15564/14
Council Conclusions on Special Report No 9/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?"	15565/14
Council Regulation (EU) No 1367/2014 of 15 December 2014 fixing for 2015 and 2016 the fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks OJ L 366, 20.12.2014, p. 1–14	15459/14
<p><u>Council and Commission Statement on Red seabream in areas VI, VII, VIII, IX, X</u></p> <p>"Council and Commission acknowledge that Member States commit to putting in place measures by 31 May 2015 to limit by-catches of red seabream in EU and international waters of VI, VII, and VIII. Council and Commission commit to have these measures evaluated by the appropriate scientific bodies in the course of 2015, to assess the effectiveness of the measures put into place and whether additional measures may be needed.</p> <p>Council and Commission acknowledge that red seabream in area IX may be distributed in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean and therefore it is likely being fished by Member States and third countries. In view of this, the Commission will continue to support the on-going cooperation with the relevant third countries in order to improve scientific assessment of the stock and to agree a joint management approach as soon as possible. The Commission commits to have the measures agreed under the joint management approach scientifically assessed by the appropriate scientific bodies and to evaluate the scientific assessment with a view to making a proposal to adapt catch levels and the area covered by the TAC in line with the scientific assessment. Concerning the issue of the minimum size for red seabream, such a minimum size exists for red seabream caught in the Mediterranean Sea. Therefore undersized red seabream may not, in particular, be sold or offered for sale in the EU. The Commission will examine the most effective way to achieve an equivalent minimum size for red seabream caught in the Atlantic.</p> <p>Council and the Commission acknowledge that national measures are in place for the management of read seabream in area X. Council and Commission commit to have these measures scientifically evaluated as soon as possible in order to assess whether these measures are effective and whether additional measures are needed."</p>	

Commission statement on Grenadiers

"During 2015, the Commission will monitor the evolution of catches under the combined TACs for roundnose grenadier and roughhead grenadier and, if necessary, seek further scientific advice on the stocks of grenadiers and the distribution of catches per species. On that basis, the Commission will consider the need for possible adaptations of those TACs."

Statement by Spain and Portugal

"The Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic deeply regret the final results of the Council of Ministers, which took place on 10 November, fixing TACs and quotas for certain deep-sea fish stocks for the next two years, 2015 and 2016.

The Governments of Spain and Portugal consider that the final compromise should have followed certain essential principles that should have been applied to all the concerned stocks:

- To ensure equal treatment to all Member States in the implementation of the new CFP.
- That decisions are based on sound scientific advice.
- To include not only biological but also socio-economic parameters, and
- To take into account the activity of third countries in the management of shared species.

In particular, the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Portugal have had no choice but to vote against the compromise proposal since these general principles of consistency between zones and regulations for fixing the quotas -in the particular case of the Red Sea Bream of the ICES area IX and X- have not been observed by the Commission.

- Neither the initial proposal for a quota reduction of 62% nor the final 52% adopted, but also the reduction of 25% decided for area X, were in line with the scientific advice for a fishery of this type (data poor). This reduction is clearly discriminatory with respect to those decided for other species and areas in a similar biological situation. It is not justified because it will not achieve by itself the recovery of the stock and it will have serious impacts on local populations.

- The ICES report on RSB IX did not take into account third countries catches and so the result is biased.
- Since the Red Sea Bream is a fishery shared with third countries, the single action of reducing catches by the European fleet does not allow the recovery of the resource. Since the Council held in November 2012, Spain has been unsuccessfully requesting the European Commission to engage this third country in the management of the fishery, as it has done with other shared stocks (Norway, Iceland, Faroe Islands for mackerel, blue whiting, herring, etc.). The result of this inaction has led to a proposal for a unilateral reduction of the quotas leading to the progressive eviction of the European fleet which will only benefit a third country, with the aggravating circumstance that their catch will still be sold in the European market, without achieving the recovery of this species and without having in consideration national management measures already adopted by Portugal and Spain.

As regards to the inclusion of the Roughhead Grenadier in the Roundnose Grenadier TACs, the rejection of the compromise proposal is based on two grounds:

- Spain considers that the basic principles of distribution of new fishing possibilities, as is the principle of relative stability based on historical catches of each Member State, have not been complied with.
- Spain also considers that the Commission has not included in its calculations all catches of this species made historically by the Spanish fleet.

Spain and Portugal expect that future proposals will be the result of consistent positions, based solely on the best fisheries management practices, on the best available science and with consideration of socio-economic aspects, along the lines of the principles embodied in the new CFP that took effect on 1 January this year."

<p>2014/948/EU: Council Decision of 15 December 2014 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cape Verde OJ L 369, 24.12.2014, p. 1–2</p>	<p>15845/14</p>
<p>Council Regulation (EU) No 1385/2014 of 15 December 2014 on the allocation of fishing opportunities under the Protocol between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cape Verde OJ L 369, 24.12.2014, p. 31–32</p>	<p>15846/14</p>
<p>Statement by the Commission</p> <p>"By its judgement of 24 November 2014 on the joined cases C-103/12 and C-165/12 (European Parliament and the Commission v. Council), the Court of Justice annulled the Council Decision 2012/19/EU of 16 December 2010 on the Declaration on the granting of fishing opportunities in EU waters to Venezuelan fishing vessels in the exclusive economic zone off the coast of French Guiana, the Court of Justice clearly confirmed that decisions relating to the conclusion of external fisheries agreements fall fully within the scope of Article 43(2) TFEU (in conjunction with the applicable procedure of Article 218 TFEU, i.e. Article 218(6)a(v) for the decisions on the conclusion) and rejected the position that such decisions could fall within the scope of Article 43(3) TFEU.</p> <p>Therefore, in relation to the decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Republic of Cape Verde, the Commission regrets the Council's amendment replacing the legal basis of Article 43(2) in conjunction with Article 218(6)a TFEU with article 43 (without mentioning the paragraph) in conjunction with article 218(6)a TFEU."</p>	

<p>2014/929/EU: Council Decision of 15 December 2014 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Republic of Madagascar and the European Community OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 6–7</p>	<p>15227/14</p>
<p>Council Regulation (EU) No 1350/2014 of 15 December 2014 concerning the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Republic of Madagascar and the European Community OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 44–45</p>	<p>15228/14</p>
<p>Statement by the Commission</p> <p>"By its judgement of 24 November 2014 on the joined cases C-103/12 and C-165/12 (European Parliament and the Commission v. Council), the Court of Justice annulled the Council Decision 2012/19/EU of 16 December 2010 on the Declaration on the granting of fishing opportunities in EU waters to Venezuelan fishing vessels in the exclusive economic zone off the coast of French Guiana, the Court of Justice clearly confirmed that decisions relating to the conclusion of external fisheries agreements fall fully within the scope of Article 43(2) TFEU (in conjunction with the applicable procedure of Article 218 TFEU, i.e. Article 218(6)a(v) for the decisions on the conclusion) and rejected the position that such decisions could fall within the scope of Article 43(3) TFEU.</p> <p>Therefore, in relation to the decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Republic of Madagascar, the Commission regrets the Council's amendment replacing the legal basis of Article 43(2) in conjunction with Article 218(6)a TFEU with article 43 (without mentioning the paragraph) in conjunction with article 218(6)a TFEU."</p>	

<p>Council Regulation (EU) No 1340/2014 of 15 December 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 1388/2013 opening and providing for the management of autonomous tariff quotas of the Union for certain agricultural and industrial products OJ L 363, 18.12.2014, p. 1–9</p>	<p>16081/14</p>
<p>Council Regulation (EU) No 1341/2014 of 15 December 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural and industrial products OJ L 363, 18.12.2014, p. 10–66</p>	<p>16082/14</p>
<p>Decision (EU) 2015/42 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 13 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (application EGF/2014/010 IT/Whirlpool, from Italy) OJ L 8, 14.1.2015, p. 14–15</p>	<p>16084/14</p>

<p>Decision (EU) 2015/44 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 13 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (application EGF/2013/014 FR/Air France, from France) OJ L 8, 14.1.2015, p. 18–19</p>	16085/14
<p>Decision (EU) 2015/41 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 13 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (application EGF/2013/006 PL/Fiat Auto Poland S.A., from Poland) OJ L 8, 14.1.2015, p. 12–13</p>	16086/14
<p>Decision (EU) 2015/43 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2014 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 13 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas, from Greece) OJ L 8, 14.1.2015, p. 16–17</p>	16088/14

Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with the Republic of Tunisia for the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas	16057/14
Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with the Republic of Tunisia for the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on Readmission	16063/14
Council Conclusions on strengthening of EU policies for young farmers	16749/14
Council Conclusions on the error rate for agricultural expenditure	16798/14

3361st meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 15 December 2014**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Conclusions on "A southern Mediterranean Investment Coordination Initiative" (AMICI)	16728/14
Council Conclusions on Central African Republic	16748/14
Council Conclusions on South Sudan	16760/14
Council Conclusions on the amendment of the Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) article in agreements between the EU and third countries	16342/14
Council Decision 2014/906/CFSP of 15 December 2014 amending Decision 2013/726/CFSP in support of the UNSCR 2118 (2013) and OPCW Executive Council EC-M-33/Dec 1, in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction OJ L 359, 16.12.2014, p. 151–152	16089/14

Council Decision 2014/912/CFSP of 15 December 2014 in support of physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) activities to reduce the risk of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their ammunition in the Sahel region OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p. 30–43	15236/14
Council Decision 2014/913/CFSP of 15 December 2014 in support of the Hague Code of Conduct and ballistic missile non-proliferation in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p. 44–52	15239/14
Council and Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/60 of 15 December 2014 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community within the Association Council established by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, as regards the adoption of decisions of the Association Council on the Rules of Procedure of the Association Council and those of the Association Committee and of Sub-Committees, the establishment of two Sub-Committees, and the delegation of certain powers by the Association Council to the Association Committee in Trade configuration OJ L 10, 16.1.2015, p. 30–44	15870/14
Council Conclusions on Syria	16868/14
Council Conclusions on Bosnia and Herzegovina	16935/14

3362nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (GENERAL AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 16 December 2014**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

ACT

DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS

2014/930/EU: Council Decision of 16 December 2014 determining the composition of the Committee of the Regions
OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 143–144

16808/14

Statements by the German, French and United Kingdom

"France, Germany, and the United Kingdom support the agreement concerning the Council's decision, determining the composition of the Committee of the Regions. France, Germany and the United Kingdom do however recall that they consider the current allocation of the number of seats per Member State not to be fully satisfactory, particularly given the demographic criterion explicitly provided for by Article 300(5) of the TFEU. Accordingly, France, Germany and the United Kingdom would like to emphasize that meticulous examination of this issue will need to take place ahead of the Committee's renewal in 2020, so as to better take into account the criteria set by the treaties and particularly that of demographic developments. Lastly, it is important to recall that this decision concerns only the Committee of the Regions and cannot set a precedent for other EU institutions."

2014/921/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 16 December 2014 authorising Croatia to apply a tax exemption to gas oil used to operate machinery in humanitarian demining in accordance with Article 19 of Directive 2003/96/EC OJ L 363, 18.12.2014, p. 150–151	15429/14
2014/931/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 16 December 2014 extending the application of Implementing Decision 2012/181/EU authorising Romania to introduce a special measure derogating from Article 287 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 145–146	15430/14
Council Conclusions on Special Report No 12/2014 by the European Court of Auditors: "Is the ERDF effective in funding projects that directly promote biodiversity under the EU biodiversity strategy 2020?"	16332/14
Council Conclusions on cooperation between humanitarian aid and civil protection authorities: building a new partnership for disaster management	15831/14
Council Conclusions on a homogeneous extended single market and EU relations with Non-EU Western European countries	16325/14 REV 1
Council Conclusions on " A transformative post-2015 agenda"	16716/14

Statement by Malta on ‘A Transformative post 2015 agenda’

The post 2015 process should be based on a comprehensive and coherent framework which will be imperative to the achievement of effective delivery and significant results at all levels. Malta reiterates its position, as also expressed in relation to previous Council Conclusions, that any recommendation or commitment made by the European Union, as well as development of any goals, targets or indicators should in no way create an obligation on any party to consider abortion as a legitimate form of reproductive health or rights or commodities.

Malta takes note of the UN Secretary General’s Synthesis Report on the Post 2015 Agenda ‘The Road to Dignity by 2030: Ending Poverty, Transforming all Lives and Protecting the Planet’. In this respect, Malta would like to recall its established position on references to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (para 70) that are not based on the understanding reached at the International Conference on Population and Development and its Programme of Action.

Statement by Malta

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Council Decision 2014/915/CFSP of 16 December 2014 amending Decision 2010/452/CFSP on the European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia, EUMM Georgia OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p. 56–57		15070/14	
Council Conclusions on Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association Process		16991/14	
Conclusions of the Council of the EU and the representatives of the Member States meeting within the Council on ensuring respect for the rule of law		17014/14	
Council Conclusions on Multiannual Programming and Legislative Planning		17026/14	
3363rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ENVIRONMENT), held in Brussels on 17 December 2014			
LEGISLATIVE ACTS			
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Council Decision No 940/2014/EU of 17 December 2014 concerning the dock dues in the French outermost regions OJ L 367, 23.12.2014, p. 1–7	15406/14	Qualified majority	All member states in favour

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Conclusions on Electronic Customs and Single Window Implementation in the European Union	16507/14
Council Conclusions on preventing and combating the use of dangerous substances and methods to carry out acts of terrorism	16326/14 REV 1
Council Conclusions on the Glossary of Firearms Terminology in law enforcement cooperation	15631/14
European Defence Agency: Draft Budget 2015	15921/14
Council Decision 2014/922/CFSP of 17 December 2014 amending and extending Decision 2010/279/CFSP on the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL AFGHANISTAN) OJ L 363, 18.12.2014, p. 152–155	15234/14

<p>Council Decision on the signing and provisional application, on behalf of the Union, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes</p>	<p>16158/14</p>
<p>Council Decision on the signing and provisional application, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on the general principles for the participation of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in Union programmes</p>	<p>16149/14</p>
<p>Council Decision on the signing and provisional application, on behalf of the Union, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Lebanon, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in Union programmes</p>	<p>16132/14</p>

Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and provisional application of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and its Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union	15865/14
Written procedure completed on 18 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Regulation (EU) No 1383/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2014 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova OJ L 372, 30.12.2014, p. 1–4	PE-CONS 95/14
Council Decision 2014/933/CFSP of 18 December 2014 amending Decision 2014/386/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 152–155	16045/14

Council Regulation (EU) No 1351/2014 of 18 December 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 692/2014 concerning restrictive measures in response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 46–59	16047/14
Regulation (EU) No 1384/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2014 on the tariff treatment for goods originating in Ecuador OJ L 372, 30.12.2014, p. 5–8	PE-CONS 96/14
Council Decision 2014/932/CFSP of 18 December 2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Yemen OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 147–151	15889/14
Council Regulation (EU) No 1352/2014 of 18 December 2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Yemen OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 60–69	16305/14
Written procedure completed on 19 December 2014	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Directive 2014/112/EU of 19 December 2014 implementing the European Agreement concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time in inland waterway transport, concluded by the European Barge Union (EBU), the European Skippers Organisation (ESO) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) OJ L 367, 23.12.2014, p. 86–95	16587/14