



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 28 May 2024
(OR. en)

10018/24
PV CONS 22
EDUC 177
JEUN 114
CULT 51
AUDIO 63
SPORT 53

DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Education, Youth, Culture and Sport)
13 and 14 May 2024

MEETING ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2024

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 9414/24.

2. Approval of 'A' items

(a) Non-legislative list

9434/24

The Council adopted all "A" items listed in the document above including all linguistic COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

A statement to these items is set out in the addendum.

(b) Legislative list (public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

9435/24

Environment

1. Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1242 on CO2 emission performance standards for heavy-duty vehicles



9388/2/24 REV 2
+ADD 1 REV 1
PE-CONS 29/24
CLIMA

Adoption of the legislative act

approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 8 May 2024

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with Italy, Poland and Slovakia voting against and Czechia abstaining (legal basis: Article 192(1) TFEU).

Statements to this item are set out in the Annex.

Agriculture

2. Regulation amending CAP Regulations as regards GAEC standards and other simplification-related aspects



9363/1/24 REV 1
+ REV 1 ADD 1
PE-CONS 75/24
AGRI

Adoption of the legislative act

Decision to derogate from the eight-week period provided for in Article 4 of Protocol 1 on the role of national parliaments in the EU

approved by the SCA on 8 May 2024

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with Germany abstaining (legal basis: Article 43(2) TFEU).

The Council also agreed to derogate from the eight-week period referred to in Article 4 of Protocol No 1.

A statement to this item is set out in the Annex.

Foreign Affairs

3. Renewal of the Regulation on temporary trade liberalisation supplementing trade concessions under the EU–Moldova Association Agreement



8831/24
PE-CONS 60/24
+ COR 1
POLCOM

Adoption of the legislative act

approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 8 May 2024

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 207(2) TFEU).

4. **Renewal of the Regulation on temporary trade liberalisation supplementing trade concessions under the EU–Ukraine Association Agreement**  8965/1/24 REV 1
+ ADD 1-2
PE-CONS 59/24
POLCOM
Adoption of the legislative act
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 8 May 2024

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with Hungary, Poland and Slovakia voting against and Bulgaria abstaining (legal basis: Article 207(2) TFEU).

Statements to this item are set out in the Annex.

Non-legislative activities

YOUTH

3. Conclusions on the legacy of the European Year of Youth 2022 8048/24
Approval
4. Conclusions on the European and international policy agendas 7368/24
on children, youth and children's rights + ADD 1-2
Approval
5. Resolution on youth work policy in an empowering Europe 7370/24
Approval
6. Conclusions on inclusive societies for young people 8673/24
Approval + ADD 1
7. **Follow-up to the outcomes of the EU Youth Conference, held on 2-5 March 2024 in Ghent**  8671/24
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate on the above subject on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the Presidency. Delegations agreed on the importance of the EU Youth Dialogue and called for a stronger monitoring of the outcomes of these Conferences.

EDUCATION

8. Council Recommendation ‘Europe on the Move’ – learning mobility opportunities for everyone (*) 8731/24 + ADD 1
(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Articles 165 and 166 TFEU)
Adoption
9. Conclusions on promoting evidence-informed policy and practice in education and training to achieve the European Education Area 8847/24
Approval
10. **Artificial intelligence in education and training: combining technological innovation with quality education for all**  8996/24
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate on the above topic on the basis of the background note prepared by the Presidency. Views were exchanged on how national education and training systems can be prepared for the challenges brought about by AI, while making the most of the opportunities it has to offer, the potential impact that AI might already have on these systems, and the measures that could be taken at European level, in consultation with the Member States, to make the most of AI in education and training, while ensuring quality education for all.

Any other business

Youth

11. a) **Support for Ukrainian youth¹** [2] 9745/24
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- b) **Outcome of the discussion at the informal EU Youth Dialogue breakfast meeting²** [2]
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- c) Work programme of the incoming Presidency
Information from Hungary

Education

- d) **A European degree** [2] 9246/24
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission.

- e) **Promotion of a rule of law culture through education** [2] 9232/24
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission.

- f) Work programme of the incoming Presidency
Information from Hungary

¹ With the participation of the Acting Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine and the Deputy Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine.

² With the attendance of the coordinator of the Belgian National Youth Councils and the President of the European Youth Forum.

MEETING ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024

Non-legislative activities

CULTURE, AUDIOVISUAL AND MEDIA

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|-----|--|---|
| 12. | Conclusions on support for influencers as online content creators
<i>Approval</i> | 8641/24 |
| 13. | Conclusions on empowering the cultural and creative sectors through data-driven audience development
<i>Approval</i> | 8642/24 |
| 14. | Future-proofing the cultural and creative sectors in the age of artificial intelligence³
<i>Policy debate</i> |  8643/24 + COR 1 |

The Council held a policy debate on the above topic on the basis of the background note prepared by the Presidency and a presentation made by external guest, Marnix Verduyn, a cartoonist with expertise in artificial intelligence (AI). The Council exchanged views on the Member States' support to the cultural and creative sectors by developing and using AI technologies, particularly through skills development and cross-sectoral collaboration, and on how EU policy (including the EU Work Plan for Culture 2023-2026) and programmes can meet the cultural and creative sectors' need to grasp the potential of AI.

³ With the attendance of Marnix Verduyn, comic book artist, engineer and academic at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven).

SPORT

15. Resolution on the European Union Work Plan for Sport (1 July 2024 – 31 December 2027) 9000/24
Approval
16. Conclusions on the contribution of self-organised sport to supporting active and healthy lifestyles in the European Union 8987/24
Approval + ADD 1
17. **The role of volunteers in European sport** 8960/24
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate on the above subject on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the Presidency. Delegations presented their measures to encourage and empower volunteering in the field of sport and also pointed out some obstacles preventing people from volunteering in sport.

Any other business

Culture, audiovisual and media

18. a) **Selection of the European Capital of Culture 2028, Bourges** 8822/24
Information from the French delegation
- The Council took note of the information provided by France.
- b) **Conference on the Hague Convention on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict (The Hague, Netherlands, 13-15 May 2024)** 9192/24
Information from the Netherlands delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by the Netherlands.

- c) **International conference ‘Towards the Recovery of the Culture Sector of Ukraine’ (Vilnius, Lithuania, 6-7 June 2024)** [2] 9193/24
Information from the Lithuanian delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by Lithuania.

- d) **The future of EU cultural policy** [2] 9463/1/24 REV 1
Information from the German delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by Germany.

- e) **Enforcement of EU sanctions on streaming and video sharing platforms – a collective responsibility** 9189/24
Information from the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian delegations

- f) **Work programme of the incoming Presidency**
Information from Hungary

Sport

- g) **Consequences of Russia’s war of aggression on the Ukrainian sports sector⁴** [2] 9392/24
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- h) **The European dimension of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games** [2] 9230/24
Information from the French delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by France.

⁴ With the participation of the Acting Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine and the Deputy Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine.

- i) **The European dimension of the 2024 European Football Championship in Germany** [2] 9291/24
Information from the German delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by Germany.

- j) **Member State engagement with the world anti-doping code** [2] 9338/24
Information from the Netherlands delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by the Netherlands.

- k) **Work programme of the incoming Presidency**
Information from Hungary

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- [2] Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
- [C] Item based on a Commission proposal
- (*) Item on which a vote may be requested
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Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in doc. 9435/24

Ad "A" item 1: **Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1242 on CO₂ emission performance standards for heavy-duty vehicles**
Adoption of the legislative act

STATEMENT BY POLAND

“On the whole, Poland supports the overall objectives of the Commission proposal and the general trend of stimulating reduction efforts by increasing existing standards or formulating new ones.

The Polish government agrees on the need to take action to reduce CO₂ emissions from the transport sector.

However, in Poland’s view, the reduction of vehicle exhaust emissions should be carried out in a balanced manner, taking into account market capabilities, having regard to both the technological conditions of vehicle and vehicle equipment manufacturers and the economic dimension concerning the financial capacities of vehicle purchasers and users and the country’s citizens.

At the same time, Poland notes that the proposed rules could pose a significant challenge and burden for manufacturers and local authorities. For semi-trailer manufacturers, given the available technology, the proposed rules may even be impossible to implement.

Compared to the position adopted in the Council’s general approach, Poland notes in particular the unfavourable development towards stricter reduction requirements for semi-trailers and urban buses. Poland therefore opposes the adoption of the Regulation.”

STATEMENT BY SLOVAKIA

“Slovakia is aware of the need to decarbonise road transport in the European Union and its Member States. However, the final agreement reached between the Council and the Parliament on the proposed Regulation is still overly ambitious in terms of targets and the deadlines for meeting them.

We consider it important to draw attention to the following points, which, in our view, have been omitted from the final agreement:

Firstly, the principle of technological neutrality has not been taken into account in the Regulation. Relying exclusively on electric and hydrogen heavy-duty vehicles that are not available on a large scale could be a double-edged sword due to legitimate concerns as to whether these are the most appropriate technologies. This problem is accentuated by the lack of recharging points for the heavy-duty vehicle segment, which appears to be a significant obstacle both now and in the near future, and other practical implications are questionable.

Secondly, the assessment of the measures supported by Slovakia, particularly the potential and role of renewable CO₂-neutral fuels, the introduction of a carbon correction factor and the assessment of CO₂ emissions throughout the entire life cycle of new heavy-duty vehicles only in the review clause, seems to us to be insufficient. From our perspective, addressing all the above elements at a later stage creates a disadvantage for other alternative fuels with decarbonisation potential in the road transport sector.

Despite discussions on what for Slovakia are essential elements, the final wording of the Regulation has, from our perspective, not improved. We are therefore unable to support the final text agreed in the Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1242 as regards strengthening the CO₂ emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles and integrating reporting obligations, amending Regulation (EU) 2018/858 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/956.”

**Regulation amending CAP Regulations as regards GAEC standards
and other simplification-related aspects**

Ad "A" item 2:

Adoption of the legislative act

*Decision to derogate from the eight-week period provided for in Article 4 of
Protocol 1 on the role of national parliaments in the EU*

STATEMENT BY GERMANY

“The Federal Government states for the record that Germany also considers it necessary to relieve farmers of red tape and also supports a permanent arrangement for GAEC 8. However, the measures taken in this regard must not undermine the objectives of EU policy, namely the Green Deal, and the steps taken so far in terms of EU agricultural support towards transforming the agri-food system. The lowering of standards associated with some of the Commission’s proposals weakens the CAP as a key European instrument for implementing the Green Deal if no accompanying measures are taken, particularly to maintain biodiversity ambitions.”

Ad "A" item 4:

**Renewal of the Regulation on temporary trade liberalisation
supplementing trade concessions under the EU–Ukraine Association
Agreement**

Adoption of the legislative act

**STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION on the monitoring of imports of grain from Ukraine
on the occasion of the adoption of Regulation 2024/xxxx⁵**

“Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine has disrupted pre-existing supply chains. The EU is providing support to Ukraine to resume normal flow of grain and other goods, especially through the Solidarity Lanes, and to ensure that exports of grain can reach their destination, including in particular in third markets, to support global food security.

The Commission is committed to supporting Ukraine while also preserving the interest of the EU grain producers and ensuring a proper functioning of the grain market in the EU.

Given the importance of grain production and grain markets, the Commission will pay particular attention to the monitoring of imports of grain, in particular wheat, and notably to the concentration of such imports in Member States neighbouring Ukraine. In its regular dialogue with Ukraine, the Commission will address any issues brought to light by the monitoring. The Commission recalls that imports from Ukraine can be subject to surveillance under Chapter IV of Regulation (EU) 2015/478 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 March 2015 on common rules for imports, which can take the form of import licensing, if the trend in imports threatens to cause injury to Union producers and if the interests of the Union so require. In this regard, the Commission will use the tools at its disposal as needed. The Commission will continue to report regularly to Member States on the results of the regular dialogue with Ukraine.

For products covered by ATMs, the Commission recalls that the Regulation also provides for a reinforced safeguard mechanism. For the first time, the Commission has introduced the possibility and is ready to activate this mechanism in the event of adverse effects on the market of one or several Member States and not only for the EU market as a whole. In this regard, the Commission will use to the full extent its powers to initiate ex officio the reinforced safeguard mechanism for imports of wheat from Ukraine.

The Commission recalls that, in 2022 and 2023, it adopted measures to support European farmers in all Member States, notably in the Member States neighbouring Ukraine.”

⁵ OJ please insert the number in the text for 2024/0028 (COD).

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION on the Review Process under Article 29 of the Association Agreement on the occasion of the adoption of Regulation 2024/xxxx⁶

“The Commission confirms that, as soon as the new ATMs are adopted by the co-legislators, it will take the necessary steps under Article 29 of the Association Agreement to pursue, through consultations with Ukraine, the process of reciprocal tariff liberalisation.

The Commission will closely involve the European Parliament and will keep it informed of the progress of those consultations with Ukraine. The Commission will take due account of possible comments of the European Parliament in that respect.

The Commission recalls that these working modalities do not constitute a precedent for review clauses in any other agreement and do not deviate from Article 218 TFEU.

The outcome of this process will provide economic certainty and stable trade to both Ukraine and the EU, to farmers and businesses. This will also be an important step in the reconstruction of Ukraine and further integration into the EU internal market, as part of the country’s future accession to the Union.”

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL

“The Commission presented a statement on the Review Process under Article 29 of the Association Agreement on the occasion of the adoption of Regulation 2024/xxx indicating that, as it takes the necessary steps under Article 29 of the Association Agreement to pursue the process of reciprocal tariff liberalisation, it will closely involve the European Parliament and keep it informed of the progress of the consultations with Ukraine. Moreover, the Commission indicated that it will take due account of possible comments of the European Parliament in that respect.

The Council recalls that this process must be undertaken in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 218 TFEU, in particular paragraph 9. The close involvement of the European Parliament in this process, as described in the Commission statement, is not foreseen in Article 218 TFEU and would lead to a modification of the institutional balance resulting from the Treaties.

In this context, as indicated in its statement on the Framework Agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission (2010/C 287/01), the Council will submit to the Court of Justice any act or action of the European Parliament or the Commission performed in application of the Commission’s statement that would have an effect contrary to the interests of the Council and the prerogatives conferred upon it by the Treaties.”

⁶ OJ please insert the number in the text for 2024/0028(COD).