Council of the European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme - Adoption

1. At its meeting of 11 March 2025, the Council adopted the decision authorising the opening of negotiations with Iceland for an agreement laying down the rules for the participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to governmental services.[1]

2. On 17 November 2025 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme[2], as well as a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of that Agreement[3], together with the text of the Agreement as addendum to the proposal.

3. On 17 February 2026, the Council adopted the decision authorising the signing of that Agreement. On 20 February 2026, the Council informed the European Parliament of this Decision in accordance with Article 218(10) of the TFEU and transmitted the text of the Agreement[4]. The Decision on the signing was published in the Official Journal on 23 February 2026[5].

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1 OJ L, 2025/538, 24.3.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/538/oj.
2 15540/25 + ADD1.
3 15538/25 + ADD1.
4 5275/26.
5 OJ L, 2026/434, 23.2.2026, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2026/434/oj.

4. On 17 February 2026, the Council also agreed in principle on the draft decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, as set out in document 5271/26. The Council decided to request the European Parliament for its consent to this draft Decision, in accordance with Article 218(6) TFEU.

5. The European Parliament delivered its consent on 16 September 2026[6].

6. In light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend to the Council to:

   – adopt the draft decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, as set out in document 5271/26, accompanied by the text of the Agreement as set out in document 5275/26.

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[6] P10_TA(2026)0298.