



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 19 October 2023  
(OR. en, de)

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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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

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Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on European Green Bonds and optional disclosures for bonds marketed as environmentally sustainable and for sustainability-linked bonds (**first reading**)  
- Adoption of the legislative act  
= Statements

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**Statement by Germany**

Germany maintains the view that nuclear energy is not sustainable. While we acknowledge that the European green bond standard is linked to the Taxonomy Regulation, we do not consider the inclusion of nuclear energy to be appropriate for the purposes of creating a gold standard for green bonds. Therefore, Germany cannot support the political agreement on the European Green Bond Regulation in its entirety.

### **Statement by Austria**

We support measures that will help to channel financial resources towards sustainability. Therefore, Austria also takes a positive view of the European Green Bond Standard. However, we have always pursued the goal of establishing a credible and science-based taxonomy and we reject that nuclear investments can qualify as transition activities. We welcome the disclosure obligations for such investments included in the text, even though they could have been more prominent. We fully respect national sovereignty as well as European and international law regarding national energy policies, but we consider it green washing to classify economic activities in the context of nuclear power as sustainable.

### **Commission statement**

The Commission confirms its intention to treat any potential mandates to develop standardised annexes for the disclosure of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)-related information in the EU Prospectus with swiftness, taking into account the experience with the voluntary guidelines prepared for green bonds in the European Green Bond Regulation.

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