



Council of the  
European Union

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**Interinstitutional Files:**  
**2016/0297 (NLE)**  
**2016/0298 (NLE)**

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**COLAC 98**  
**RELEX 940**

**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From:	Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	12495/16 + ADD1, 12497/16 + ADD1 and 12505/16
Subject:	<p>Draft Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Cuba, of the other part</p> <p>- Adoption</p> <p>and</p> <p>Draft Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Cuba, of the other</p> <p>-Request for the consent of the European Parliament</p> <p>and</p> <p>Draft Council Decision repealing Common Position 697/96 on Cuba</p> <p>-Adoption</p>

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1. On 22 September 2016, the Commission submitted to the Council the following texts:
  - i. Joint Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Cuba, of the other part (doc. 12495/16 COLAC 71 CFSP/ PESC 748 + ADD 1); and
  - ii. Joint Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Cuba, of the other (doc. 12497/16 COLAC 72 CFSP/ PESC 749 + ADD 1).

On the same day, the EEAS transmitted to the Council the following:

- iii. Proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the Council for a Council Decision repealing Common Position 697/96 on Cuba (doc. 12505/16 COLAC 77 RELEX 783 CFSP/ PESC 754).
2. These texts were examined by the Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean (COLAC) at several meetings in September and October 2016 and subsequently endorsed. As to the text repealing the Common Position, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) saw it at its meeting on 22 November 2016 and gave its political endorsement and the Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) saw and endorsed it at its meeting on 24 November 2016.

3. The Permanent Representatives' Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council adopts, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the proposed Decision on the signing of the said Agreement, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 12501/16 COLAC 74 CSP/PESC 751, together with the text of the Agreement, as finalised by the legal linguistic experts and set out in document 12504/16 COLAC 76 CFSP/ PESC 753, and the proposed Decision repealing Common Position 697/96 on Cuba, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 12509/16 COLAC 79 RELEX 785 CFSP/PESC 756.
4. Furthermore, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of the said Agreement, the Permanent Representatives' Committee is also invited to recommend that the Council decides, as an "A" item at the same meeting, to forward the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the said Agreement, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 12502/16 COLAC 75 CSP/PESC 752, to the European Parliament for its consent.
5. The Decision on the signing, together with the text of the Agreement, and the Council Decision repealing Common Position 697/96 on Cuba will be published in the Official Journal in accordance with the applicable rules.

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