Council of the European Union

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SOC 625
EMPL 428
GENDER 185
EDUC 386

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	14034/22
Subject:	Council Recommendation on early childhood education and care: the Barcelona targets for 2030 - Adoption

1. On 8 September 2022, the Commission submitted the above proposal to the Council. Based on Article 292 TFEU, in conjunction with Article 153(1), point (i), thereof, the proposed Recommendation aims to encourage Member States, taking into account their national circumstances, to increase participation in accessible, affordable, and high-quality early childhood education and care (ECEC) in order to facilitate and encourage women's labour-market participation and to enhance the social and cognitive development of children and their educational success, in particular for children in vulnerable situations or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

2. The Working Party on Social Questions has examined the Recommendation on 14 and 29 September, 11 and 26 October, and 8 November 2022. Following an informal written consultation concluded on 16 November 2022,[1] the Working Party agreed on the Presidency compromise text.

[1] See doc. WK 15174/22.

3. Legal-linguistic revision has been carried out and the resulting text is set out in doc. 14785/22.

4. In the light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) is invited to:

   a) confirm the agreement reached in the Social Questions Working Party on the text of the proposal as set out in doc. 14785/22; and

   b) recommend to the Council (EPSCO) to adopt, at its session on 8 December 2022, the Council Recommendation on early childhood education and care: the Barcelona targets for 2030, as set out in doc. 14785/22.

5. After the Recommendation has been adopted, it will be published in the *Official Journal* of the European Union.