Council of the European Union

Brussels, 23 November 2026
(OR. en)

15187/26
PV CONS 60
TRANS 671
TELECOM 515
ENER 725
PARLNAT

DRAFT MINUTES

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Transport, Telecommunications and Energy)

29 October 2026

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 14689/26.

Legislative deliberations
(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

2. Regulation on network charges 1 C 14016/1/26 REV 1
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate.

A joint statement by Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Portugal and Sweden is set out in the Annex.

3. Approval of "A" items

a) Non-legislative list 14535/26

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

b) Legislative list (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union) 14536/26

Economic and Financial Affairs

1. Payment services Directive (PSD) 1 C 14794/26
Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons 8535/26 + ADD 1
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 28.10.2026 EF
ECOFIN

The Council adopted its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons (legal basis: Articles 53 and 114 TFEU).

2. **Payment services Regulation (PSR)** 1 C 14798/26
Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons 8543/26
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 28.10.2026 + ADD 1 REV 1
EF
ECOFIN

The Council adopted its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons (legal basis: Article 114 TFEU).

Non-legislative activities

4. Energy security: winter 2026/27 and long-term[1] 14209/1/26 REV 1
Exchange of views

5. **Post-2030 framework: targets** 2 14219/26
Exchange of views

The Council held an exchange of views.

Any other business

6. a) Joint declaration on collective action to ensure stability of diesel supplies 14941/26
Information from Belgium, France, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy and Sweden

b) **CO2 transportation infrastructure and markets** 2 14728/26
Information from Belgium

The Council took note of the information provided by Belgium.

c) **The need for a long-term vision for the resilience and competitiveness of European refineries** 2 14726/1/26 REV 1
Information from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia

The Council took note of the information provided by Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Slovakia.

[1] In the presence of the Minister of Energy of Ukraine and the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Moldova.

d) **Political message based on the joint declaration of fuel industry associations "In unstable times Europe needs stable energy industry", signed on 8 October 2026 in Sofia** 14729/26
Information from Bulgaria and Slovakia

The Council took note of the information provided by Bulgaria and Slovakia.

e) **High-voltage electrical switchgear: urgent need to adopt a delegated act under the ESPR regulation** 14942/26
Information from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Latvia, Poland

The Council took note of the information provided by Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Latvia and Poland.

f) **2026 Annual Progress Report on simplification, implementation and enforcement (Energy and Housing)** 14340/26
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by Commission.

First reading

Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

Item based on a Commission proposal

Statements to the legislative "B" items set out in doc. 14689/26

Ad "B" item 2: **Regulation on network charges**
Policy debate

JOINT STATEMENT BY CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, FINLAND, GERMANY, ITALY, LATVIA, POLAND, PORTUGAL AND SWEDEN

"Joint Non-Paper on key aspects on the proposed Regulation
as regards future-proofing electricity bills

The Croatian, Czech, French, Finnish, German, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish authorities share the objective of the proposed Regulation on "future-proofing electricity bills" to reduce electricity costs. This aspect is essential to foster electrification and ensure energy security in the EU. Network tariffs are an effective tool for achieving this. However, given the wide variety of national circumstances, they must be flexible enough to adapt to a wide range of situations. The Commission must respect the regulator's prerogatives and allow them the scope to innovate and adjust their tariffs swiftly, particularly given the rapid changes taking place in electricity systems and the challenges they present.

The Croatian, Czech, French, Finnish, German, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish authorities consider that no satisfactory justification has been provided for the need for guidelines on a common tariff structure and harmonised tariff methodology (be it via implementing acts or delegated acts), nor any clear explanation of their foreseeable content. Such a broad empowerment of the Commission raises significant concerns regarding compliance with the principle of subsidiarity, as reflected in the assessments of several national parliaments.

ACER's report on network tariff practices emphasizes that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to network tariff design. A common framework for network tariffs that goes beyond the guiding principles set out in Article 18 regarding their structure or methodology, would be unsuitable for many Member States' electricity networks. It would require major efforts without providing any benefits to the electricity system, particularly in terms of cost as tariff structures mainly affect how network costs are split between network users. Moreover, Member States' differing network topologies and energy mixes mean that the binding application of a common and harmonised tariff structure would not result in lower network-related charges for consumers, but risk years of

stagnation by creating new investment uncertainties. It would also significantly restrict the regulatory authorities' scope for manoeuvre in adjusting tariffs in the future, without technically facilitating the elaboration of more sophisticated tariffs.

Furthermore, despite numerous requests for justification and explanation, Croatian, Czech, French, Finnish, German, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish authorities have not received any conclusive evidence as to the need for tertiary legislation on network harmonisation.

Therefore, they wish to emphasize their firm opposition to the adoption of any tertiary law (delegated act or implementing act) on tariffs methodology and structure and thus ask for the deletion of Art. 61 para 5a.

CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, FINLAND, GERMANY, ITALY, LATVIA, POLAND, PORTUGAL, SWEDEN"