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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
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Subject:	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents (recast) - Preparation for the trilogue

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (18.04.2024)

On 27 April 2022 the Commission presented the proposal for a recast of the Directive concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents (known as the LTR Directive). The current LTR Directive dates back to 2003. After several discussions in the Council, Coreper adopted a negotiating mandate on 23 November 2023. In the European Parliament, the LIBE Committee voted on the report by rapporteur MEP Damian Boeselager (Greens/EFA, DE) on 28 March 2023, which was confirmed by the Plenary on 19 April 2023. Two political trilogues have taken place (30 November 2023 and 16 January 2024) and a third one is scheduled for 5 March. Several inter-institutional technical meetings and drafting sessions have been held, in preparation of which the Presidency regularly organized JHA Counsellors' meetings in order to consult delegations and receive their input ahead of the aforementioned meetings.

In this context, the Presidency has gathered detailed input in preparation of the last political trilogue where it will strive to defend the Council position as much as possible. However, further political guidance on three outstanding issues is still needed, namely the calculation of stay, the cumulation of residence periods and the notion of absence from the territory of the Union.

The Presidency underlines that it will defend the Council mandate as much as possible during the trilogue, and that it is taking into account the concerns of the delegations. However, as the upcoming trilogue is meant to be the final one on this file, the Presidency needs some flexibility from the Member States in order to reach an agreement.

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