



Council of the  
European Union

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**DRAFT MINUTES**  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(General Affairs)  
25 February 2020

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## Non-legislative activities

4. **Preparation of the European Council on 26-27 March 2020:** 5807/20 + COR 1  
**Annotated Draft Agenda**  
*Exchange of views*

The Council took note of the annotated draft agenda for the European Council meeting of 26-27 March 2020.

6. **Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association Process**  
*Presentation by the Commission*

The Commission presented its communication entitled "Enhancing the accession process - A credible EU perspective for the Western Balkans".

7. **EU-UK relations**

- a) **Council Decision authorising the opening of the negotiations for a new partnership with the United Kingdom** 6239/20 +COR1  
*Adoption* 5870/20  
+ ADD 1 REV 2
- b) **EU-UK relationship - next steps**  
*Exchange of views*

The Council adopted the Council Decision on the opening of negotiations for a new partnership with the UK. The Council also held an exchange of views on the next steps for the EU-UK relationship.

Statements related to this item are set out in the Annex.

8. **Any other business**

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission on the preparation of the first annual Rule of Law report.

The Council took note of the information provided by Greece on the outcome of the Thessaloniki High Level Conference on the European Perspective of the Western Balkans.

Statements to the non-legislative "B" items set out in 6134/20

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