Council of the European Union

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Commission's intention to enter into discussions with the Department of State of the United States regarding engagement with the 'Pax Silica' initiative - Preparation for the authorisation to negotiate a non-binding instrument

1. On 6 March 2026, the Commission submitted to the Council a note on the Commission's intention to commence discussions on a non-binding instrument (NBI) on the "Pax Silica" initiative, as outlined in document ST 7096/26.

2. The "Pax Silica" is a U.S.-led strategic initiative launched in December 2025 to secure global supply chains for AI semiconductors, critical minerals, and advanced technologies. It aims to reduce reliance on single sources by building a secure 'silicon supply chain'—spanning from mining and processing of raw materials to semiconductor design, AI manufacturing, and infrastructure like data centres—as well as fostering a trusted, resilient network of allies in order to ensure technological and economic security.

3. The Commission intends to provide delegations with an overview of the initiative at the meeting of the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society on 26 March 2026, and will revert with updates on the process as soon as available.

4. In light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council:

- during its AGRIFISH session on 30 March 2026, authorises the Commission to enter into discussions with the Department of State of the United States regarding engagement with the “Pax Silica” initiative, as outlined in document ST 7096/26.

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