



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 15 March 2024  
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## **DRAFT MINUTES**

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space))

7 March 2024

## **Non-legislative activities**

### **4. State of play of the single market: The 2024 Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report** *Exchange of views*

6625/1/24 REV 1

The Council held an exchange of views based on the questions as set out in the document above.

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**Statements to the non-legislative "A" items set out in doc. 7144/24****Ad "A" item 2:****Council Decision on the withdrawal of the Union from the Energy Charter Treaty***Agreement in principle**Request for the consent of the European Parliament***STATEMENT BY ESTONIA**

“Without prejudice to its final position at the time of adoption of the aforementioned Council Decision due to ongoing national consultations, Estonia confirms the agreement in principle on the text of the draft Council Decision on the withdrawal of the Union from the Energy Charter Treaty as set out in document 6509/24.

Estonia supports forwarding the draft Council Decision on the withdrawal of the Union from the Energy Charter Treaty, as revised by the legal-linguistic experts, to the European Parliament for its consent.”

**Ad "A" item 7:****Actions recommended by the EU and the US for online platforms to protect human rights defenders online***Approval of a non-binding instrument***STATEMENT BY HUNGARY****“IDENTIFY RISKS TO HRDs**

Hungary recognizes and promotes equality between women and men in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary, and the primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from international law. Furthermore, equality between women and men is enshrined as a fundamental value in the Treaties of the European Union, in particular in Article 2 of the TEU and Article 8 of the TFEU. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the concept of “gender” as reference to “sex” and the concept of “gender equality” as reference to the “equality between women and men”.

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