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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe - <i>Approval</i> - <i>Statement by Bulgaria</i>

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Delegations will find attached a statement by Bulgaria in relation to the above-mentioned subject.

**Statement by the Republic of Bulgaria on the Council conclusions on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe**

The Republic of Bulgaria attaches great importance to promoting and protecting human rights, and remains dedicated to its human rights commitments and to ensuring equality and combating discrimination as fundamental values of the European Union.

The Council conclusions on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe refer to European Commission documents, in particular the Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025 and the EC LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020–2025, which contain definitions, terms or expressions that are incompatible with the binary understanding of ‘gender’ under Bulgarian law.

In accordance with Decisions No 13/2018 and No 15/2021 of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Bulgaria, Bulgaria reserves the right to apply the Conclusions on the understanding that the concept of gender has a purely biological meaning and is biologically based on the gender binary, that is, the existence of two opposite sexes, male and female.

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