

Brussels, 22 May 2025
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LIMITE

IPCR 35

'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: Extension of the mandate of the ad hoc Working Party on preparedness, response capability and resilience to future crises until 30 June 2026.

1. On 13 December 2022, the Council (General Affairs) approved a Roadmap on strengthening crisis anticipation, preparedness and response in the Council¹.
2. The Roadmap came in response to the Council conclusions of 23 November 2021 and takes a step-by-step approach to strengthening resilience and crisis management within the EU.
3. Following the March 2024 European Council conclusions inviting the Council to take work forward and the Commission together with the High Representative to propose actions to strengthen preparedness and crisis response at EU level in an all-hazards and whole-of-society approach, taking into account Member States' responsibilities and competences, with a view to a future preparedness strategy, work has continued in this area.
4. On 26 March 2025, the Commission and the High Representative presented the Joint Communication on the European Preparedness Union Strategy², aimed at strengthening the EU's resilience.

¹ ST 15476/22

² JOIN(2025) 130 final.

5. The ad hoc Working Party on preparedness, response capability and resilience (AHWP Resilience) took a leading role in initial deliberations within the Council on the Preparedness Union Strategy, following its examination of the cross-cutting recommendations of the report on strengthening Europe's civilian and military preparedness and readiness published on 30 October 2024 (Niinistö report).
6. In order to continue to take forward the work set out in the Roadmap, and to assist Coreper in the examination of current and upcoming initiatives on strengthening preparedness and crisis response at the EU level in an all-hazards and whole-of-society approach, the Presidency considers that the mandate of the existing AHWP Resilience should be further extended.
7. It is the Presidency's intention that the AHWP Resilience will take work forward, upon decision of Coreper, on the Commission's legislative proposals in this area, where such proposals fall outside the remit of any other sectoral preparatory body.
8. Given that the current mandate of the AHWP Resilience is due to expire on 30 June 2025, the Presidency therefore proposes, in accordance with Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, to extend the mandate of the AHWP Resilience for another 12 months until 30 June 2026.
9. The AHWP Resilience will carry out its tasks under the terms of reference as set out in the Annex.
10. In view of the above remarks, Coreper is invited to approve:
 - the extension of the mandate of the AHWP Resilience until 30 June 2026;
 - the terms of reference in the Annex.

Mandate

Ad Hoc Working Party on preparedness, response capability and resilience to future crises

Code

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Council configuration

The Ad Hoc Working Party on preparedness, response capability and resilience to future crises operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs³
 - Justice and home affairs⁴
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)⁵
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁶
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Sub-areas or Subgroup(s)

N/A

Policy area(s)

Under the authority of the Coreper⁷, the Ad Hoc Working Party ensures the follow-up of the conclusions of the Council of 23 November 2021 on enhancing preparedness, response capability and resilience to future crises. It supports deliberations on initiatives aimed at enhancing preparedness and crisis response.

Type of work

The Working Party is in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts);
- Policy preparation

In particular, the AHWP is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
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³ Including budget

⁴ Including civil protection

⁵ Including tourism

⁶ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁷ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

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- other Union legal acts:
 - external documents or instruments:
 - policy document(s):
 - other: Council Conclusions

The Working Party is responsible for legislative proposals falling outside the remit of any other sectoral preparatory bodies, as identified by Coreper.

**Chairing
arrangement**

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
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Observations

- Date of establishment: 12 January 2022
 - Duration of the mandate: until 30 June 2026.

 - Main links with other Working Parties:
The Ad hoc Working Party draws on the expertise of delegates working in the relevant areas, as appropriate, and its activities shall be without prejudice to the work within other Council bodies.
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