

Brussels, 26 May 2025
(OR. en)

9356/25

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB for the meeting of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on 6 June 2025 : The future of the Postal Services Directive - Information from the Commission

At the last TTE Council on 6 December 2024 the Commission informed the Council about the [2024 Prospective study on the future of the postal sector](#) (delivered to the Council on 21 November). The study followed Council Decision¹ (EU) 2022/1327 of 26 July 2022 pursuant to Article 241 TFEU that requested the Commission to submit a study on the situation of the internal market of Union postal services, in particular regarding the application of Directive 97/67/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, and a proposal to review the Directive, if appropriate, in view of the outcome of the study.

The prospective study forecasted and analyzed potential mid-to-long term developments of the EU postal sector in the context of the recent geopolitical events and crises and the ongoing structural trends of the postal market. The study developed a framework for estimating the magnitude of the effects of the future developments on postal stakeholders. The latter were extensively consulted for the study. Member States were regularly informed of the status of the work through the Postal Directive Committee and the European Regulators Group for Postal Services provided significant input.

The study concluded that the EU postal sector is expected to remain a key enabler of the EU economy and trade; however, it will continue to experience significant and rapid changes, raising both challenges and opportunities. The study has developed 5 scenarios to assess the future of the postal sector and found that in all scenarios certain challenges are likely to emerge, impacting the financial sustainability of the universal service obligation and the level playing field between the different actors of the sector. The study indicates that a minimum level of universal postal service may still be needed in the future, at least for vulnerable users. This supports the conclusions of the Commission's 2021 [Evaluation](#), which confirmed the Directive's relevance but identified outdated and burdensome provisions.

On the background of the prospective study, the Commission has been engaging with Member States and the postal community in discussions on the future of the EU postal sector. A Council Working Party on postal issues on 25 November 2024 provided the first occasion to present and discuss the forward-looking study on the future of the postal sector. Furthermore, it was discussed with Member States at the Postal Directive Committee on 9 December 2024. At the Council Working Party of 24 March 2025 19 Member States requested an immediate revision of the regulatory framework. They subsequently sent a letter on 25 April to the Commission to stress the urgent need of a revision.

On 21 May 2025 the Commission adopted the Single Market Strategy, which announced the reform of the regulatory framework. The Commission will launch a call for evidence and engage in a public consultation to inform the preparation of an impact assessment and legislative proposal. The adoption of the postal reform is scheduled for Q4/2026.