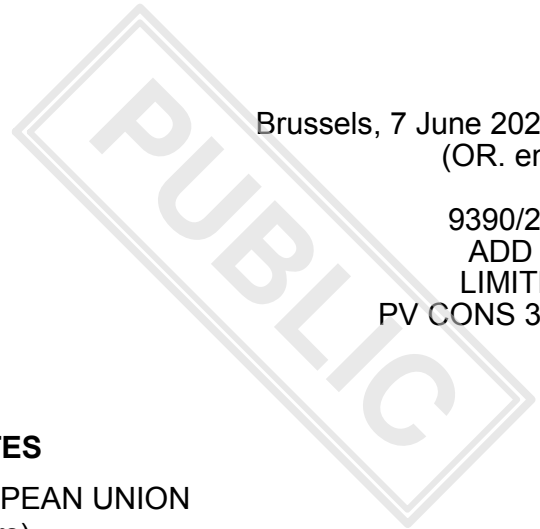




Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 7 June 2022
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DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(General Affairs)
23 May 2022

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Non-legislative activities

3. **Preparation for the special meeting of the European Council on 30 and 31 May 2022: Conclusions** 8231/22
Exchange of views

The Council exchanged views on the draft conclusions of the special European Council of 30 and 31 May 2022.

4. **Preparation for the meeting of the European Council on 23 and 24 June 2022: Annotated draft agenda** 8232/22
Exchange of views

The Council exchanged views on the annotated draft agenda of the European Council of 23 and 24 June 2022.

5. **Conference on the future of Europe** 8992/22
Information from the Presidency
Exchange of views

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency and held an exchange of views on the follow-up to the conference on the future of Europe.

6. **Values of the Union in Hungary: Article 7(1) TEU (reasoned proposal)** 8473/22
Hearing

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission, questions by Member States and responses by Hungary.

7. **Any other business**

No issues were raised under this item.

Statements to the non-legislative "A" items set out in doc. 9186/22**Ad "A" item 6:****Council Decisions amending Council Decisions on assistance measures under the European Peace Facility to support the Ukrainian Armed Forces**
*Adoption***STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA**

“In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 31(1) TEU and in line with Austria’s declaration on the application of constructive abstention at the time of the adoption of the Council Decision establishing the European Peace Facility, Austria hereby notifies the Council of its decision to abstain from the Council Decision amending Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/338, as last amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/636 of 13 April 2022, on an Assistance Measure under the European Peace Facility for the supply to the Ukrainian Armed Forces of military equipment, and platforms, designed to deliver lethal force, as she deems this decision sensitive for the specific character of her security and defence policy. Austria, acting in a spirit of mutual EU solidarity, will refrain from any action likely to conflict with or impede Union action based on that decision.

Therefore, AT will not contribute to the financing of this Assistance Measure. Instead, AT will voluntarily contribute an additional amount to a non-sensitive assistance measure for Ukraine within the framework of the European Peace Facility.”

STATEMENT BY IRELAND

“Ireland refers to Proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the Council of 8 May 2022.¹

Recalling its formal declaration of 27 February on abstention from Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/338, Ireland, in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 31(1) of the Treaty on European Union, hereby makes a formal declaration and notifies the Council of its decision to abstain from the Council Decision amending Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/338 on an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility for the supply to the Ukrainian Armed Forces of military equipment, and platforms, designed to deliver lethal force.

¹ Proposal for a Council Decision amending Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/338 on an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility for the supply to the Ukrainian Armed Forces of military equipment, and platforms, designed to deliver lethal force

Accordingly, Ireland will not be contributing to the costs of that Assistance Measure, as amended. Ireland recalls and reiterates in full its statement of 17 March 2021 to the minutes of COREPER and to the Council at the time of adoption of Council Decision (CFSP) 2021/509 of 22 March 2021 establishing a European Peace Facility.

Ireland further recalls Recital 22, Article 27 and Article 57(3) of that Council Decision and hereby signals its preference to contribute instead to Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/339 on an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility to support the Ukrainian Armed Forces, as amended.”

STATEMENT BY MALTA

“In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 31(1) of the Treaty of the European Union, Malta hereby notifies the Council of its decision to abstain from adopting the Council Decision amending Council Decision on an Assistance Measure under the European Peace Facility on the provision of lethal force equipment to the Ukrainian Armed Forces of military equipment, and platforms, designed to deliver lethal force.

As stated at the time of adoption of the Council Decision establishing the European Peace Facility, Malta reserves its right to constructively abstain from assistance measures under the European Peace Facility that allow for the supply of military equipment, or platforms, designed to deliver lethal force.

In the spirit of mutual EU solidarity, MT will refrain from any action likely to conflict with or impede Union action based on that decision.

Therefore, through our voluntary elective commitment, Malta will instead provide a corresponding contribution to the budget for assistance measure in support of Ukraine which does not involve supply of such lethal equipment or platforms.”
