



Brussels, 30 April 2024  
(OR. en)

9405/24

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Interinstitutional File:  
2023/0397(COD)

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CODEC 1204  
ELARG 58  
COWEB 64  
FIN 405  
CADREFIN 90  
ECOFIN 530  
BUDGET 34  
RESPR 14

#### 'A' ITEM NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans ( <b>first reading</b> ) - Adoption of the legislative act

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1. On 9 November 2023, the Commission submitted its proposal<sup>1</sup>, based on Articles 212 and 322(1) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Court of Auditors delivered its opinion on 30 January 2024<sup>2</sup>.
3. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 25 April 2024<sup>3</sup>.
4. On 24 April 2024, the European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> 15182/23 + ADD 1.  
<sup>2</sup> 6353/24.  
<sup>3</sup> Not yet published in the OJ.  
<sup>4</sup> 9317/24.

5. At its meeting on 24 April 2024, the Permanent Representatives Committee agreed to invite the Council to approve the European Parliament's position, as set out in PE-CONS 80/24, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting, with Lithuania and the Netherlands abstaining.
6. The statements for the minutes of the Council meeting are set out in the Addendum 1 and 2 to this note.
7. The Council is invited to:
  - approve the European Parliament's position at first reading, as set out in PE-CONS 80/24; and
  - approve the joint statement by the European Parliament and the Council, as set out in the Addendum 1 to this note, to be published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
8. If the Council approves the European Parliament's position, the legislative act will be adopted.

After being signed by the President of the European Parliament and the President of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

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