



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 7 July 2021  
(OR. en)

9701/21  
PV CONS 15  
TRANS 391  
TELECOM 254  
ENER 273

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(Transport, Telecommunications and **Energy**)

11 June 2021

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## 1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in 9472/1/21 REV 1.

## 2. Approval of "A" items

### a) Non-legislative list

9474/21

The Council adopted the "A" items listed in 9474/21 including COR and REV documents presented for adoption. Statements to these items are set out in the Addendum.

### b) Legislative list (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

9475/1/21 REV 1

## General Affairs

### 1. Regulation on Certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery



9482/21 + ADD 1-2  
PE-CONS 25/21  
COVID-19

*Adoption of the legislative act*

approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 09.06.2021

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 21(2) TFEU).

Statements to this item are set out in the Annex.

### 2. Regulation on Certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery (third country nationals)



9484/21 + ADD 1-2  
PE-CONS 26/21  
COVID-19

*Adoption of the legislative act*

approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 09.06.2021

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 77(2)(c) TFEU).

Statements to this item are set out in the Annex.

## **Legislative deliberations**

**(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)**

### **3. Revision of the TEN-E Regulation**

**1C** 9411/21

#### *General approach*

The Council reached a general approach, on the basis of the texts submitted to the Council and complemented by a Presidency room document, as reflected in the outcome of proceedings, 9732/21. ES/DE voted against and AT/LU abstained.

## **Non-legislative activities**

### **4. A hydrogen strategy for a climate-neutral Europe**

**2** 9150/21

#### *Exchange of views*

The Council held an exchange of views based on a Presidency note (9150/21).

### **5. Conclusions on a Renovation Wave that repairs the economy now and creates green buildings for the future**

**2** 9413/21

#### *Approval*

The Council approved the Council Conclusions.

## **Any other business**

6. a) Call for urgent actions to ensure full implementation of nuclear safety recommendations in the Belarusian NPP and the EUCO conclusions of December 2020

9135/21

*Information from the Lithuanian delegation*

- b) Recent developments in the field of external energy relations

9268/1/21 REV 1

*Information from the Commission*

- c) Reflection on EU taxonomy and further possible steps

9278/21

*Information from the Czech delegation*

- d) Work programme of the incoming Presidency

9307/21

*Information from the Slovenian delegation*



First reading



Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)



Item based on a Commission proposal

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Statements to the legislative "B" items set out in doc. 9472/1/21 REV 1

Ad "B" item X:      **XXX**  
                             *XXX*

**STATEMENT BY XXX**

“XXX”

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**Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in doc. 9475/1/21 REV 1**

**Ad "A" item 1:**            **Regulation on Certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery**  
                                 *Adoption of the legislative act*

**Ad "A" item 2:**            **Regulation on Certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery (third**  
                                 **country nationals)**  
                                 *Adoption of the legislative act*

**STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION**

“The Commission agrees that affordable and accessible COVID-19 vaccines and tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection are crucial in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking into account that not the entire population will have been vaccinated when Regulations ... and ... of the European Parliament and of the Council enter into force, access to affordable and widely available testing possibilities is important to facilitate free movement and mobility in Europe.

To support Member States’ testing capacities, the Commission has already mobilised funds under the Emergency Support Instrument to purchase rapid antigen tests and has launched a joint procurement for over half a billion rapid antigen tests. The International Federation of Red Cross is also supporting Member States to increase testing capacity, using funding from the Emergency Support Instrument.

To further support the availability of affordable tests, in particular for persons who cross borders daily or frequently to go to work or school, visit close relatives, seek medical care, or to take care of loved ones, the Commission commits to mobilise additional funds of EUR 100 million under the Emergency Support Instrument for the purchase of tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection that qualify for the issuance of a test certificate pursuant to Regulation ... . If necessary, additional funding above EUR 100 million could be mobilised, subject to approval by the budgetary authority.”

**STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA**

“As Austria has stated in the deliberations for the Council Position on the Digital Green Certificate (DGC – now EU Digital COVID Certificate), it is important that bilateral agreements on the mutual recognition of such certificates among Member States are possible also in case the Regulation on the DGC will not fully enter into force before the summer of 2021.

The use of a trust framework digital infrastructure (gateway), which is foreseen in the draft Regulation will be important as to avoid administrative burden due to the need for creating an interim trust framework digital infrastructure (gateway).

In addition, it is Austria’s understanding that there will be no additional costs for the Member States (except for those expenses required nationally for the implementation of the Regulation).”

## STATEMENT BY BULGARIA

“Bulgaria has consistently supported that rapid antigen tests (RATs), which are considered appropriate and reliable for the test certificate (Art. 3 lit. b) of the final compromise text), should be also part of the "recovery certificate" (Art. 3 lit. c).

In order to avoid discrimination and in view of the fact that RATs are considered equivalent in the diagnosis of COVID-19, subject to certain criteria and according to the definition of ECDC, Bulgaria considers that among the first implementation steps of the Regulation should be the inclusion of RATs in the recovery certificate.”

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