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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Delegations |
| Subject: | Information on the Commission work programme for the first semester 2026. |

Delegations will find attached the presentations given by the European Commission (DG EMPL and DG JUST) at the meeting of the Working Party on Social Questions on 7 January 2026.



2026 Commission Work Programme

DG EMPL priorities and upcoming initiatives

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DG EMPLA1

'Europe's Independence Moment'

Commission work programme - key figures



> **38**

New policy objectives

> **25 out of 47**

legislative initiatives have a significant simplification dimension

> **20**

Evaluations to stress-test the stock of EU legislation, to identify potential to simplify, to reduce costs and to consolidate rules.

> **25**

Proposals for withdrawal

> **1**

Proposals to repeal

> **111**

Pending proposals

Supporting people, strengthening our societies and social model

*“Europe’s competitiveness and security is first and foremost about **people**, their **jobs**, **families** and **livelihoods**. Our unique **social market model**, characterised by high standards for working conditions and strong social protection and quality of life, remains a cornerstone of the European project.”*

2026 Commission Work Programme

**Social market
economy**

Quality jobs

Working conditions

Social protection

Empowering workers

**Driving growth and
competitiveness**

Initiatives in the CWP

| Q2 2026 | Q3 2026 | Q4 2026 |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| EU Anti-Poverty Strategy | Fair Labour Mobility Package: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthening the European Labour Authority (ELA)• Proposal for a European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS)• Skills Portability Initiative | Quality Jobs Act |
| Strengthened Child Guarantee | | |

Initiatives outside the CWP

| Q1 2026 | Q2 2026 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Social Economy: the way forward | European VET Strategy |

Other initiatives relevant to DG EMPL

- 28th regime for innovative companies (Q1 2026)
- Update of rules on public procurement (Q2 2026)
- Circular Economy Act (Q3 2026)
- Single Market Roadmap to 2028 (Q1 2026)
- European climate adaptation plan (Q3 2026)
- Communication on better regulation (Q2 2026)
- Initiative on short term rentals (Q2 2026)
- Construction Services Act (Q4 2026)
- European school alliances and Basic Skills Support Scheme (Q3 2026, part of an Education Package)
- 2030 Roadmap on the future of digital education and skills (Q3 2026, part of an Education Package)
- Intergenerational fairness strategy (Q1 2026, part of a Fairness Package)
- Digital Fairness Act (Q4 2026)
- Gender equality strategy 2026-2030 (Q1 2026)
- Enhancing the strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities up to 2030 (Q2 2026)

Thank you

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More information: [Commission work programme 2026 - European Commission](#)

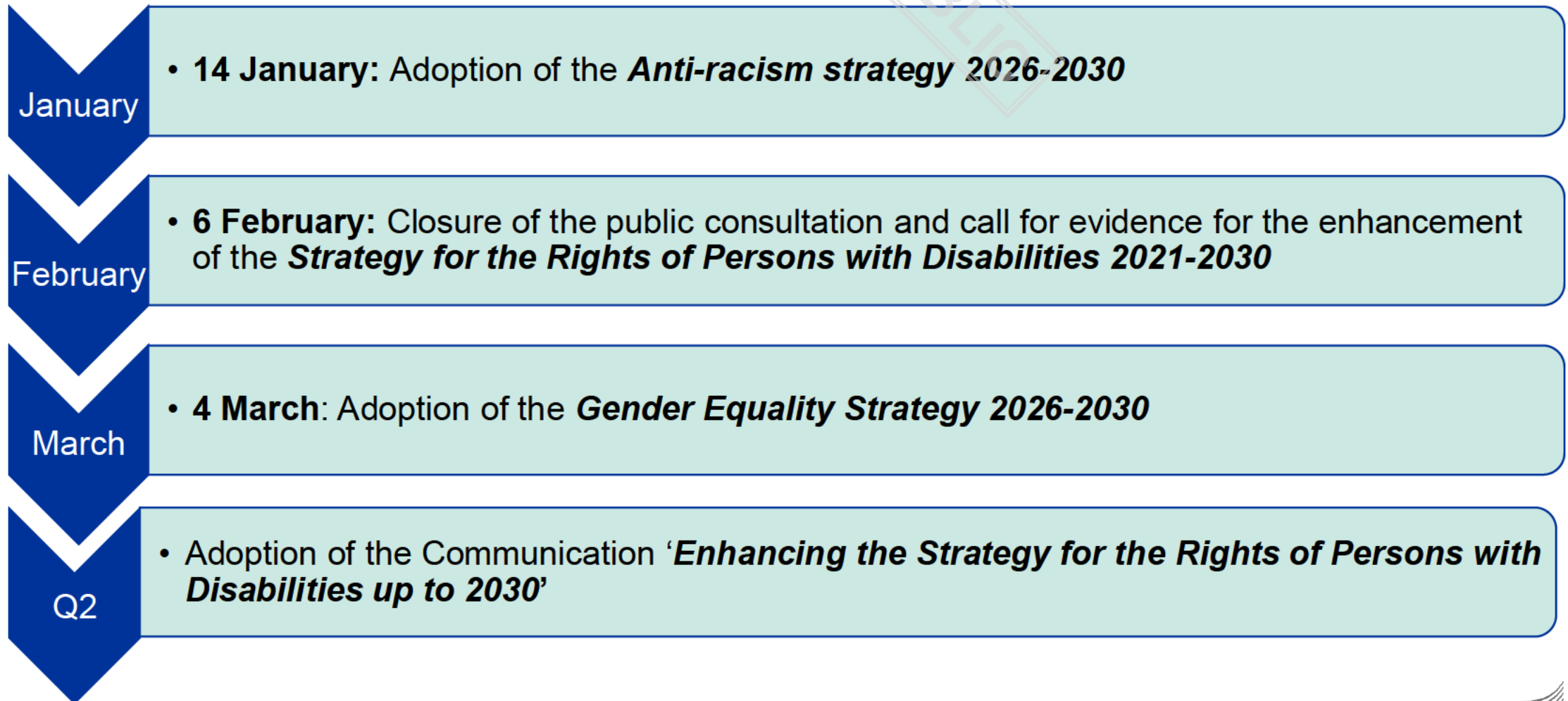


Commission work programme Q1/2 26

Priorities of DG JUST for the Social Questions Working Party

 , Head of Unit, DG JUST H.2 – Inter-institutional Relations and Communication

Timeline of key JUST initiatives



Key JUST initiatives to be launched



Enhancing the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities up to 2030

- Expected to be **adopted in Q2 2026**
- Public consultation and call for evidence open until 6 February
- Delegated Act on the European Disability Card and European Parking Card for persons with disabilities to be adopted in Q1



Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030

- Will build on the Roadmap for Women's Rights
- Expected to be **adopted on 4 March**, right before International Women's Day

Anti-racism strategy 2026-2030

- Planned for **adoption on 14 January**
- First ever EU anti-racism strategy

Key ongoing JUST initiatives



Equal Treatment Directive

- COM welcomes the plans of CY PRES to **continue work** on the proposal

LGBTIQ+ Strategy 2026-2030

- Adopted in October 2025
- **Structured dialogue** through the expert group on LGBTIQ+ equality to be launched in June 2026



Outside the CWP: Pending ECIs



My Voice, my Choice: for safe and accessible abortion

- COM has **until 2 March** to present in a communication its legal and political conclusions and the actions it intends to take, if any

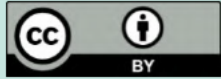
Ban on conversion practices in the European Union

- COM has **until 18 May** to present in a communication its legal and political conclusions and the actions it intends to take, if any



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Thank you!



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