



Council of the
European Union

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CO EUR-PREP 33
POLGEN 103
AG 24
ECOFIN 544
UEM 265
SOC 426
COMPET 317
ENV 432
EDUC 217
RECH 201
ENER 263
JAI 500

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: European Semester : Integrated Country-specific recommendations
- Approval and report to the European Council

Under the European Semester, the Commission submitted on 13 May 2015 to the Council

- a Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the implementation of the broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States whose currency is the euro; and
- for 26 Member States, a Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2015, and delivering a Council Opinion on the updated Stability or Convergence Programme.

These recommendations combine economic and employment recommendations, based on Articles 121(2) and 148(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), with Council opinions on stability and convergence programmes, based on Articles 5(2) and 9(2) of Regulation 1466/97, with a recommendation on the implementation of the broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States whose currency is the euro, based on Articles 136 and 121(2) TFEU, and, in certain cases, with recommendations on the preventive part of the macroeconomic imbalances procedure under Article 6(1) of Regulation 1176/2011.

These texts were examined and finalised by the Council, meeting in its EPSCO formation on 18 June and its ECOFIN formation on 19 June 2015. The General Affairs Council of 23 June 2015 approved the Integrated Country-specific recommendations and transmitted them to the European Council in accordance with Article 121(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). The texts as they result from these deliberations are set out in the documents listed in the annex to this note. As regards France, exceptionally, the text of the country-specific recommendation 1 (and corresponding recital 8) will be finalised following the forthcoming Commission assessment of the report on effective action, which was submitted by France on 10 June 2015, in the framework of the excessive deficit procedure.

The Council will proceed to the formal adoption of the texts after the European Council has discussed its conclusions on them, in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU.

Bearing in mind that recommendations falling within the scope of Article 148(4) TFEU form an integral part of the country specific recommendations and that their content is inextricably linked to that corresponding to the Stability and Growth pact, the procedure under Article 121(2) TFEU should apply to both parts of the recommendations. Accordingly, document 9305/1/15 REV 1 contains explanations of modifications made during Council deliberations to Commission recommendations.

Following the European Council, the Council, meeting in its ECOFIN formation, will also formally adopt the Broad Economic Policy Guidelines which were endorsed by the meeting of the Council in its ECOFIN formation on 19 June 2015 (doc. 6675/15). The formal adoption of the Employment Guidelines, on which the Council, meeting in its EPSCO formation on 18 June 2015, reached a General approach (doc. 8694/15) will take place after all the Opinions required by Article 148(2) have been received.

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