



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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(OR. en)**

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**From:** General Secretariat of the Council  
**To:** Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
**Subject:** Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending the Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union (**first reading**)  
- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)  
= Statement

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**Statement by the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Austria and  
Denmark**

As Council votes on the Staff Regulations today, it is a good opportunity to reflect on the negotiations and the next steps. The delegations which voted against the Presidency compromise want to outline why they did so and their hopes for the future of the EU civil service.

The review of the Staff Regulations was an opportunity to modernise the EU civil service, to rein in administrative spend and to ensure that the EU Institutions will be able to afford their future commitments on pensions and salaries. This is an opportunity that only comes every few years.

Unfortunately, after nearly two years of intensive work by all parties, and despite broad agreement for those objectives, our delegations felt that the compromise presented did not match the comprehensive reforms which many Member States are already delivering in their domestic civil

services. All of our public services are changing and the EU civil service will be left behind at its peril. A modern, effective and dynamic civil service is vital for the EU to be able to deliver on the important issues which matter to our citizens. We should not under-estimate how strongly the public's support for the EU is linked to their perception of the EU Civil Service. In the next few years, we will continue to work constructively to ensure that EU citizens have the EU civil service they should expect, one that reflects our 21<sup>st</sup> century EU and one that the EU can afford to maintain.

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