



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 11 March 2014  
(OR. en)**

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**Interinstitutional File:  
2013/0415 (COD)**

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ADD 1**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement (**first reading**)  
- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)  
= Statement

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**Statement by the Commission**

The Commission commits to continue supporting the Moldovan Government in the decision the latter has already taken to start replacing the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation passports of its citizens by 4<sup>th</sup> generation biometric passports, which will include fully integrated chip booklets, by mid-2015. The Commission will closely monitor this process in the framework of the existing Partnership and Cooperation structures and dialogues and it will report regularly to the Council and the European Parliament on the state of implementation of this decision, including through the post visa liberalisation monitoring reports.