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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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 as regards the financing of European political parties **(first reading)**
- Adoption of the legislative act **(LA + S)**
= Statement

Statement by the Netherlands

- regarding the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations, and

- the proposal for an amendment to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 as regards the financing of European political parties.

The Netherlands considers the current proposal as a significant improvement compared to the original proposal of September 2012.

Despite this, the Netherlands has strong fundamental objections against the assessment of the EU's values in the process of registration and verification of the European political parties. The Netherlands attaches great value to the independent position of political parties. The Netherlands is of the opinion that it is primarily up to the voters and secondarily to the judiciary to assess the programme and activities of political parties. Such an assessment should not be part of the registration and verification process.

Therefore, the Netherlands will vote against the proposals concerned.
