



Council of the
European Union

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CO EUR-PREP 47
POLGEN 183
ENV 962
ENER 498
MI 974
RECH 469
COMPET 660
IND 370
ECOFIN 1158
SOC 855
EDUC 343
TELECOM 230
JAI 988
EMPL 195

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject: Europe 2020 strategy and the European semester
- Roadmap for 2015

Delegations will find below the above-mentioned roadmap as presented by the incoming Presidency.

Following established practice, the incoming Presidency has prepared this roadmap which covers both the 2015 European semester and the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy given the close links between the two exercises. As regards the European semester, the roadmap outlines all key steps of the 2015 semester and provides preliminary indications on the focus of discussions in certain fora. Concerning the Europe 2020 strategy, the roadmap builds on the work undertaken by the Council during the Italian Presidency (doc. 16025/14) and provides indications for 2015.

The objectives of the roadmap are to ensure that all relevant Council formations, and their preparatory bodies, work in a coordinated and consistent manner towards a thorough preparation of the European Council debates on the European semester and the Europe 2020 strategy and to enable the General Affairs Council and COREPER to oversee the process.

The roadmap is divided in two phases: the first, with more details, until the March European Council, and the second, more indicative, for the period between the European Council meetings in March and June 2015. After the March EC, an updated roadmap will be presented, as appropriate.

The intention of the incoming Presidency is to discuss the Annual Growth Survey in the meetings of the ECOFIN, EPSCO, Competitiveness, Energy and Environment Council formations in February - March 2015 as part of a broader debate on the policies concerned. These debates will address issues such as governance, implementation and investments and pay special attention to digital aspects. The proposed involvement of the Council after the March European Council reflects broader policy discussions and deliverables in the context of the Europe 2020 strategy and its main objectives.

The incoming Presidency is initiating discussions with the chairs of the Committees (EFC, EPC, EMCO, SPC) with a view to coordinating the management of their work throughout the semester and in the final stages of the mid-term review. The incoming Presidency will keep COREPER informed.

The Presidency and the incoming Presidency welcome the European Parliament's efforts, reflected in its resolution of 22 October 2014 on the European semester, to enhance parliamentary involvement in the European Semester.

FIRST PHASE

Run-up to the March European Council

pm. 28 November 2014: Annual Growth Survey 2015

- Adoption, by the Commission, of the Annual Growth Survey 2015 alongside the draft Joint Employment Report and the Alert Mechanism Report

pm. 1-15 December 2014: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States

- State of play of the implementation of Country-specific recommendations

pm. 9 December 2014: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Exchange of views on the Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review
- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and the Alert Mechanism Report: presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

pm. 11 December 2014: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015, the draft Joint Employment Report and the Alert Mechanism Report: presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

16 December 2014: General Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: presentation by the Commission
- Presentation, by the incoming Presidency, of the 2015 roadmap on the Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review and the European semester
- Europe 2020 mid-term review: Synthesis report of Council discussions
- Preparation of the December European Council: draft European Council conclusions

18-19 December 2014: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Presidency synthesis report on Council debates on the Europe 2020 mid-term review

2-5 February 2015: Parliamentary week in the framework of the European semester

- Debates between members of relevant committees from the European Parliament and national parliaments

(Poss.) February 2015: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States

- State of play of the implementation of Country-specific recommendations

10 February 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the March European Council: annotated draft agenda

17 February 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and Alert Mechanism Report: exchange of views and Council conclusions

2-3 March 2015: Competitiveness Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchange of views on the Internal Market, Industrial competitiveness, Research and Innovation aspects. Adoption of Council conclusions on the Future EU Single Market Policy. Poss. Commission presentation of the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy

5 March 2015: Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Energy)

- Annual Growth Survey 2015 and energy policy: Discussions on Energy Infrastructure and Energy Union, with reference *inter alia* to the Annual Growth Survey 2015 and poss. Commission presentation of the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy.

6 March 2015: Environment Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchange of views, with a focus on the potential of resource efficiency and ICT for the green economy, poss. Commission presentation of the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy

9 March 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- Annual Growth Survey 2015: exchange of views and Council conclusions (including on health aspects of the 2015 AGS)
- (Poss.) Employment Guidelines: State of play
- Joint Employment Report: adoption
- SPC report on the social situation in the EU: Endorsement of key messages
- (Poss.) Commission presentation of the Mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy and exchange of views

by early March 2015:

- Approval of 2015 work programmes by EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC

10 March 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- (Poss.) Commission presentation of the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy and exchange of views
- (Poss.) Implementation of key structural reforms: Exchange of views

early March 2015:

- Adoption of country-specific analysis by the Commission, including, where relevant, MIP In-Depth Reviews

March to April:

- EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC preparatory work on country-specific analysis, including, where relevant, MIP In-Depth Reviews

17 March 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the March European Council:
 - Draft conclusions
 - Synthesis Report on Council discussions on the Europe 2020 mid-term review and the 2015 European Semester

19-20 March 2015: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Europe 2020 strategy mid-term review: general principles (and way ahead)
- Assessment of progress made in implementing 2014 Country-specific recommendations
- Guidance to Member States for their 2015 Stability and Convergence Programmes and National Reform Programmes

SECOND PHASE

Run-up to June European Council

April 2015: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States

- State of play
- Outstanding country-specific issues

April/May 2015:

- (Poss.) Adoption (A item) of decision on the Employment Guidelines for 2015

mid-April 2015:

- Further to the guidance provided by the European Council, Member States submit their National Reform Programmes and Stability or Convergence Programmes

21 April 2015: General Affairs Council

- Follow-up to the March European Council, including poss. an updated Presidency roadmap on the Europe 2020 Mid-term review and the European Semester

12 May 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure (MIP) - In depth-reviews: Council conclusions

19 May 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the June European Council: annotated draft agenda

mid-May 2015 [date depends on the timing of the national documents]:

- Commission to present its proposals for the Country opinions and the Country-specific recommendations (CSR)
- Immediately after CSR publication, division of labour and coordination and cooperation arrangements between committees as well as the methods for consolidating committee views will be confirmed

18-19 May 2015: Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council

- Council and Commission Joint Report on the implementation of the ET2020 strategic framework
- (Poss.) Council conclusions on youth sector
- (Poss.) Policy debate from the point of view of culture and creative industries

28-29 May 2015: Competitiveness Council

- (Poss.) Draft Council conclusions on Industrial policy - Small Business Act update
- (Poss.) Policy debate on the Digital Single Market

End-May - early June:

- EFC, EPC, EMCO and SPC preparatory work on Country-specific recommendations¹

11 June 2015: Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Transport)

- (Poss.) Exchange of views on the contribution to the EU competitiveness, growth and jobs through the development of transport infrastructure, in particular through the implementation of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T)

12 June 2015: Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Telecommunications)

- Policy debate on the Digital Single Market strategy

18 June 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

- (Poss.) Employment guidelines (adoption)
- Approval of 2015 Country-specific recommendations on Member States' employment and social policies and draft explanatory note
- Endorsement of the opinions of EMCO and SPC on the National Reform Programmes 2015 and the implementation of the 2014 Country-specific recommendations
- Endorsement of the Employment Performance Monitor and benchmarks
- Assessment of the 2015 CSR package on cross-cutting issues: SPC Report

1 With inputs from the Education Committee, the High-Level Group on Competitiveness and Growth and the Working Party on Public Health

(Poss.) 19 June 2015: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (Health)

- (Poss.) Exchange of views on the enhanced involvement of the health sector in European Semester

19 June 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Approval of 2015 Country-specific recommendations and Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes and draft explanatory note
- Approval of Council recommendation on the implementation of the Broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States whose currency is the euro
- (Poss.) Implementation of the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure (MIP)
- (Poss.) Broad Economic Policy Guidelines (approval)

23 June 2015: General Affairs Council

- Preparation of the European Council: draft conclusions
- Approval of integrated Country-specific recommendations and transmission to the European Council

25-26 June 2015: EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- Endorsement of integrated Country-specific recommendations

14 July 2015: Economic and Financial Affairs Council

- Adoption of integrated Country-specific recommendations
