



Council of the  
European Union

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2014/0315 (NLE)**

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VISA 314  
COEST 447

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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

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No. Cion doc.: 14987/14 VISA 291 COEST 400 + ADD1 (COM(2014) 679 final)

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Subject: Adoption of a Council Decision establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the facilitation of the issuance of visas, with regard to the adoption of Common Guidelines for the implementation of the Agreement

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1. On 30 October 2014, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision in order to establish the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the facilitation of the issuance of visas, with regard to the adoption of Common Guidelines for the implementation of the Agreement, together with a draft Decision of the Joint Committee and the Common Guidelines, set out respectively in 14987/14 VISA 291 COEST 400 + ADD1.
2. Following examination of the Common Guidelines by the Visa Working Party on 12 December 2013, on 10 January, 20 February and 15 April 2014, the Commission consulted on these Guidelines with the responsible authorities in Ukraine on several occasions, including in the Joint Committee meeting on 14 May 2014. Finally, in the Visa Working Party on 21 November 2014, Member States expressed agreement on the basis of 14987/14 VISA 291 COEST 400 + ADD1.

3. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000 concerning the request of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis<sup>1</sup>; the United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
4. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis<sup>2</sup>; Ireland is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
5. In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol (No 22) on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to ask the Council to adopt the draft Council Decision as set out in 15902/14 VISA 303 COEST 434, under the "A" part of the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20.