



Brussels, 10 February 2016  
(OR. en)

5942/16

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
2013/0027 (COD)

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TELECOM 16  
DATAPROTECT 11  
CYBER 11  
MI 68  
CSC 28  
CODEC 139

**"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.: 6342/13 TELECOM 24 DATAPROTECT 14 CYBER 2 MI 104 CODEC 313

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Subject: Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning measures to ensure a high level of network and information security across the Union  
- Adoption of the political agreement with a view to an early second reading agreement with the European Parliament

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1. On 12 February 2013 the Commission submitted the above-mentioned proposal for a Directive to the Council and to the European Parliament.
2. The European Parliament (rapporteur Mr Andreas Swab, PPE) adopted its position at first reading on 13 March 2014.
3. In the Council, the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society examined the proposal at various meetings. On 14 October 2014, the Permanent Representatives Committee granted the mandate to the Italian Presidency for initiating trilogue meetings with the European Parliament.

4. In total, six informal trilogues have been held during the Italian, Latvian and Luxembourg Presidencies, resulting in a tentative agreement on a compromise text reached in a final trilogue on 7 December 2015.
5. On 18 December 2015, the Permanent Representatives Committee endorsed the compromise text.
6. On 28 January 2016, the Chair of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee of the European Parliament addressed a letter to the President of the Permanent Representatives Committee stating that, if the Council adopts its position at first reading in accordance with the above-mentioned compromise, he would recommend to the Plenary that the Council's position be accepted without amendment, subject to legal-linguistic verification, at Parliament's second reading.
7. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend to the Council to confirm, under the A items, the political agreement as set out in doc. 5894/16.

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