



Council of the  
European Union

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**DRAFT MINUTES**  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(General Affairs)  
17 April 2018

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**

The Council adopted the agenda set out in 7755/18.

2. **Approval of "A" items**  
**Non-legislative list**

7756/18

The Council adopted the "A" items listed in 7756/18 including COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

**Legislative deliberations**

**(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)**

3. **Reform of the Electoral Act**

**S** 7597/18

*Approval*

The Council agreed to give more time to delegations to lift their outstanding reservations with a view to approving the file by means of a written procedure by the end of April.

Portugal made the statement set out in the Annex.

**Non-legislative activities**

The Council addressed the following non-legislative discussion items (4-5)

4. **Rule of Law in Poland / Article 7(1) TEU Reasoned Proposal**

*State of play*

5. **Any other business**

– **Enlargement package**

*Information from the Commission*

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**S** Special legislative procedure

STATEMENTS FOR THE COUNCIL MINUTES

Statements to legislative discusion items

Ad "B" item 3:        **Reform of the Electoral Act**  
*Approval*

**STATEMENT BY PORTUGAL**

"Portugal states that its favourable vote presupposes that the threshold established by Article 3 is not required to apply to Portugal because, under the current distribution of seats, it has fewer than 35 seats in the European Parliament. However, if the distribution of seats in the European Parliament is changed, the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic would not allow the application of a threshold, such as that laid down by Article 3, that would limit the conversion of votes into seats by means of a minimum percentage."

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