

14408/18

(OR. en)

PRESSE 65  
PR CO 65

## OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

3656th Council meeting

### General Affairs

### Art.50

Brussels, 19 November 2018

President **Gernot Blümel**  
Federal Minister for the EU, Arts, Culture and Media of  
Austria

# P R E S S

## CONTENTS<sup>1</sup>

### ITEMS DEBATED

Brexit negotiations: Preparation of special meeting of European Council ..... 3

### OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

*none*

- <sup>1</sup>
- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
  - Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
  - Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

**ITEMS DEBATED****Brexit negotiations: Preparation of special meeting of European Council**

The Council, in an EU27 format, prepared the special meeting of the European Council (Art. 50) scheduled for Sunday 25 November 2018. The EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier informed ministers on the state of play.

In preparation for the summit, ministers exchanged views on the draft Brexit withdrawal agreement as presented and published by the negotiators on 14 November 2018. This text has been agreed by both sides, the EU and the UK, at the level of the negotiators.

Ministers also commented on the outline for a political declaration on future EU-UK relations that was presented by the negotiators together with the draft withdrawal agreement on 14 November 2018. This outline serves as a basis for the final text of the political declaration that is currently being negotiated with the UK and that will accompany and be referred to in the withdrawal agreement.

Ministers gave the chief negotiator guidance for the discussions on the political declaration, recalling the positions of the EU27 that are already set out in the European Council (Article 50) guidelines, notably those of March 2018. The Commission intends to agree on a final draft of the political declaration with the UK by Tuesday 20 November 2018.

**OTHER ITEMS APPROVED**

---