



Council of the  
European Union

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POLGEN 138  
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IND 286  
ECOFIN 905  
SOC 697  
EDUC 398  
EMPL 531

#### NOTE

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

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Subject: European Semester 2018  
- Roadmap

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

Following established practice, the Presidency and the incoming Presidency have prepared this roadmap outlining all key steps of the 2018 semester.

The objectives of the roadmap are to ensure that all relevant Council configurations, 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 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 2018.

The incoming Presidency is initiating discussions with the chairs of the Committees with a view to coordinating the management of their work throughout the semester. The incoming Presidency will keep COREPER informed.

The Presidency and the incoming Presidency acknowledge the parliamentary dimension, both at national and European level, of the European semester and take note of the intention for a Joint debate on the European semester with the European Parliament foreseen for March 2018.

## **FIRST PHASE**

### **Run-up to the March European Council**

#### **10 October 2017: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- Lessons learnt: exchange of views

#### **23 October 2017: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council**

- Employment Performance Monitor (EPM) - Report on key employment challenges and main messages from EMCO
- Social Protection Performance Monitor (SPPM) - Report on key social challenges and main messages from SPC

= Endorsement of key messages

#### **20 November 2017: General Affairs Council**

- Roadmap: Presentation by the Presidency and the incoming Presidency

#### **22 November 2017: Annual Growth Survey 2018**

- Adoption by the Commission of the Annual Growth Survey 2018, alongside the draft Joint Employment Report, the proposal for Employment Guidelines, the Alert Mechanism Report and the draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area
- Adoption, by the Commission, of the opinions on the Draft Budgetary Plans for euro area Member States

#### **End November**

- Immediately after publication of the draft euro area Recommendation, division of labour and coordination arrangements between committees as well as the methods for consolidating committee views will be confirmed

#### **End November, Early December**

- Committees (EFC, EPC-EA, EMCO, SPC) prepare the joint contribution covering the employment and social aspects of the euro area recommendation

**p.m. first half of December 2017: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States**

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

**5 December 2017: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- Annual Growth Survey 2018, Alert Mechanism Report 2018 and draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area: Presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

**p.m. 6 December 2017:**

- Adoption by the Commission of the Economic and Monetary Union package

**7-8 December 2017: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council**

- Annual Growth Survey 2018, Alert Mechanism Report 2018, draft Joint Employment Report and draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area: Presentation by the Commission and exchange of views
- Contribution on social and employment aspects of the Draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area: approval

**12 December 2017: General Affairs Council**

- Annual Growth Survey 2018: Presentation by the Commission

**p.m. 15 December 2017: Euro Summit**

- EMU + Banking Union (*under the Leaders' Agenda*)

**p.m. 22 January 2018: Eurogroup**

- Draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area

**23 January 2018: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- Draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area: approval
- Annual Growth Survey 2018 and Alert Mechanism Report 2018: Council conclusions

**p.m. : Parliamentary week in the framework of the European semester**

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

**27 February 2018: General Affairs Council**

- Preparation of the March European Council: annotated draft agenda

**28 February 2018 (tbc):**

- Publication of country-specific analysis (country reports) by the Commission, including, where relevant, In-depth reviews under the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure

**5 March 2018: Environment Council**

- Thematic debate

**12-13 March 2018: Competitiveness Council**

- Thematic debate

**12-15 March 2018: European Parliament plenary session**

- Joint debate on the European Semester 2018 (tbc)

**13 March 2018: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- Implementation of Country-specific recommendations drawing on the Alert Mechanism Report and the country reports: exchange of views;
- Thematic debate

**15 March 2018: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council**

- Annual Growth Survey 2018: Council conclusions
- Joint Employment Report: adoption

**20 March 2018: General Affairs Council**

- Preparation of the March European Council:
  - Draft conclusions
  - Poss. Synthesis report on Council contributions on the 2018 European semester
  - Draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area: transmission to the European Council
  - Poss. updated roadmap on the 2018 European semester

## **22-23 March 2018: European Council**

- Exchange of views on the economic situation
- Guidance to Member States for their 2018 Stability and Convergence Programmes and National Reform Programmes
- Draft Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area

## **SECOND PHASE**

### **Run-up to June European Council**

#### **Second half of March 2018: Bilateral meetings Commission - Member States**

- State of play
- Outstanding country-specific issues

#### **Mid-April 2018**

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

**23 May 2018 (tbc)** [date depends on the timing of the national documents]:

- Commission to present its proposals for Council Recommendations on the National Reform Programmes and delivering a Council Opinion on the Stability and Convergence Programmes
- Immediately after publication of the Country-specific recommendations, division of labour and coordination and cooperation arrangements between committees as well as the methods for consolidating committee views will be confirmed

#### **May - early June:**

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

#### **25 May 2018: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

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

#### **21 June 2018: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council**

- 2018 Country-specific recommendations related to Member States' employment and social policies and draft explanatory note: approval
- Opinions of EMCO and SPC on the National Reform Programmes 2018 and the implementation of the 2017 Country-specific recommendations: endorsement
- Poss. General approach on the Employment Guidelines

**22 June 2018: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- 2018 Country-specific recommendations and Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes and draft explanatory note: approval

**26 June 2018: General Affairs Council**

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

**28-29 June 2018: European Council**

- Integrated Country-specific recommendations
- p.m. EMU (*under the Leaders' Agenda*)

**July 2018: Economic and Financial Affairs Council**

- Integrated Country-specific recommendations: adoption
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