



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 1 April 2019  
(OR. en)

7931/19

**LIMITE**

**CADREFIN 175**  
**RESPR 18**  
**POLGEN 64**  
**FIN 262**

**NOTE**

---

From: Presidency  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
Subject: Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027  
- steering questions

---

1. In line with the approach presented to Ministers on 19 February 2019, the Presidency is conducting a number of thematic and technical discussions to advance work on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027 package.
2. On 15 and 28 March 2019, the Ad Hoc Working Party on MFF exchanged views on key elements of the Cohesion and Common Agriculture policies. The Presidency has taken good note of the comments made by delegations on those issues, however discussions made it clear that further political guidance was required.
3. To that end, the Presidency would like to invite Ministers, at their meeting of 9 April 2019, to have a debate on the basis of the following questions, while limiting their interventions to a maximum of 3 minutes.

## I. COHESION

- a) How can we ensure that the “*no region is left behind*” principle is properly reflected in the new MFF, while ensuring that regions mostly in need would benefit the most from the cohesion funds and that all regions that are below the EU average continue to move towards it?
- b) How do you assess the proposal for the Cohesion policy as regards its capacity to react to new priorities and unforeseen events?

## II. COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

- a) How can the proposal on CAP best support the development of rural areas across the Union and guarantee a fair standard of living for the agricultural population, while increasing the productivity and competitiveness of European agriculture?
- b) How does the EU agricultural sector become economically, environmentally and socially sustainable in the long run?

---