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**NOTE**

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Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS - DECEMBER 2018

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This document lists the acts<sup>1</sup> adopted by the Council in December 2018.<sup>2 3</sup>

It provides information on the adoption of legislative acts, including:

- the date of adoption,
- the relevant Council session,
- the number of the document adopted,
- the Official Journal reference,
- applicable voting rules, voting results and, where appropriate, explanations of vote and statements published in the minutes of the Council.

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<sup>1</sup> For easy reference, the "short titles" as mentioned in the Council's agendas are also indicated (see in *italics*).

<sup>2</sup> With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

<sup>3</sup> In the case of legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure, there may be a difference between the date of the Council's meeting where the legislative act is adopted and the actual date of the act in question, since legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure are only considered to have been adopted after signature by both the President of the Council and the President of the European Parliament and the Secretaries-General of the two institutions.

This document also contains information on the adoption of non-legislative acts that the Council has decided to make public.

This document is also available on the Council's website at:

[Monthly summaries of Council acts \(acts\) - Consilium](#)

Documents listed in the summary may be obtained from the public register of Council documents at: [Documents and publications - Consilium](#)

It should be noted that this document is exclusively for information purposes - only Council minutes are authentic. These are available on the Council's website at: [Council Minutes - Consilium](#)

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## INFORMATION ON THE ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL IN DECEMBER 2018

### 3658th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) held in Brussels on 3 and 4 December 2018

LEGISLATIVE ACTS				
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES	
<i>Regulation on the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)</i> Regulation (EU) 2018/1971 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office), amending Regulation (EU) 2015/2120 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1211/2009 (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 321, 17.12.2018, p. 1–35	51/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour	

#### Statement by Finland

Finland welcomes the agreement reached between the Council and the Parliament on the Directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code and the Berec Regulation. Finland fully supports promotion of the Digital Single Market, which is an essential element of the competitiveness of the EU. For Finland, the key aim in the discussions has been to relax and update the currently stringent regulation on telecommunications services. Finland is strongly in favour of the key objectives of the Regulatory Fitness and Performance (REFIT) programme and the better regulation agenda, namely the aim to ensure that EU legislation delivers results for citizens and businesses effectively, efficiently and at minimum cost. We regret to note that the price regulation on Intra-EU Calls is in conflict with these general objectives, as well as with the modernization and investment objectives of the regulatory framework. First, the price regulation does not reflect a future-proof regulatory approach, particularly as the regulation is applied on services whose usage among consumers is generally in decline. Second, this kind of EU-wide price regulation is unjustified in the market where consumers are provided with a variety of alternatives. The provision of traditional intra-EU calls and SMS is competitive in many Member States. In addition, number-independent interpersonal communications are increasingly popular among consumers, also in the cross-border communications. The price regulation would impose significant technical, commercial and administrative changes to the service-providers without clearly demonstrating wide scale consumer benefit. For these reasons, Finland expresses its disappointment over the agreement to include price regulation of intra-EU calls in the final compromise.

<i>Directive on the European Communications Code</i> Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code (Recast) (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 321, 17.12.2018, p. 36–214	52/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
<i>Directive on energy efficiency</i> Directive (EU) 2018/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 amending Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 210–230	54/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour, except: Against: BE, CZ Abstentions: HR, SK

#### **Statement by Belgium**

Having voted against does not detract Belgium from being a strong advocate for a sustainable energy and climate policy as laid down in the Council Conclusions of October 2014 and contained in the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, Belgium subscribes fully to the principle of energy efficiency. The ambitious goal set out in the submitted proposal, more specifically Article 7, presents Belgium nonetheless with an unreachable challenge to achieve this in a cost efficient manner.

Notwithstanding, Belgium will continue to deliver constructive contributions to the European energy efficiency goal.

#### **Statement by Croatia**

The Republic of Croatia expresses its concerns regarding the provisions of Article 7 and the values of the actual annual savings in the total energy consumption, with the target being set at 0.8 %. The Republic of Croatia could, in accordance with its previously expressed positions agree to support a compromise solution with a maximum 0.7 %.

Although the implementation of energy efficiency measures in all sectors will contribute considerably to the decrease in EU energy consumption, the value of actual annual savings in the total energy consumption of 0.8 % is not economically viable and could have a significant negative economic impact on the Republic of Croatia. Therefore, the Republic of Croatia will abstain when the final compromise text on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2012/27/EU will be adopted.

### **Statement by the Czech Republic**

Having voted against does not deter the Czech Republic from remaining fully committed to the principles of energy efficiency, decarbonisation and sustainable energy policy. Nonetheless, in our view, the ambitious obligation set out in the revised Article 7 represents a great challenge for the Czech Republic. The revised obligation will require a fundamental change in the energy efficiency policy framework and it could eventually be almost impossible to reach in a cost efficient manner.

The Czech Republic remains devoted to the implementation of successful energy efficiency policies and will strive to contribute to the Union energy efficiency goal.

### **Statement by Portugal**

Despite of its strong commitment with the principle of energy efficiency first, Portugal reaffirms the concerns raised at earlier stages of the negotiation regarding the extremely high level of effort associated to the Article 7 of the Directive.

<i>Regulation on Governance of the Energy Union</i> Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, amending Regulations (EC) No 663/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 94/22/EC, 98/70/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2009/73/EC, 2010/31/EU, 2012/27/EU and 2013/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 2009/119/EC and (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1–77	55/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour

### **Statements by the Commission**

#### **Commission Statement on methane on Article 16**

The Commission notes the agreement of the co-legislators relating to Article 16 by which a strategic plan should be presented for methane.

The Commission confirms its commitment to analyse methane emissions, notably in the context of the Union's long-term strategy.

The Commission emphasizes however that it reserves the right to respond in accordance with the rules of the Treaty, with due regard in particular to its right of initiative.

#### Commission Statement on Article 44

The Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union is central to the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package. This Regulation aims to set out the process ensuring the ambition and coherence of policies and measures which are taken at various levels for the achievement of the Energy Union objectives and, in particular, the 2030 EU climate and energy targets.

In their Joint Declaration on the EU's legislative priorities for 2018 - 2019, the three Institutions committed to delivering on the objective of an ambitious Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy, notably by implementing the 2030 EU climate and energy framework, by continuing to follow up the Paris Agreement, including through legislation on clean energy for all Europeans.

Against this background, the Commission notes the agreement of the co-legislators relating to Article 44, which provides that the Commission shall be assisted by two committees in the implementation of the Regulation.

The Commission regrets that the co-legislators could not accept the Commission proposal that the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission should be under the control of a single committee, in full compliance with the applicable comitology rules set forth in Regulation 182/2011<sup>(1)</sup> and in view of streamlining and Better Regulation.

The Commission reiterates the importance of a clear division of competences between the committees which is essential for a proper exercise of the Commission's implementing powers and the application of Regulation 182/2011 establishing horizontal rules applicable to committees.

<sup>(1)</sup> Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers, OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13.

<i>Directive on renewable energy</i> Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 82–209	48/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour, except: Against: CZ Abstentions: BE, HU, SK
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### **Statement by Belgium**

The abstention does not detract Belgium from being a strong advocate for a sustainable energy and climate policy as laid down in the Council Conclusions of October 2014 and contained in the Paris Agreement.

The ambitious goal set out in the submitted proposal, presents Belgium nonetheless with a real challenge to achieve this in a cost efficient manner. Notwithstanding this challenge, Belgium will continue to deliver constructive contributions to achieve the set goal.

### **Statement by Germany**

Germany wishes to comment as follows on Article 2(14) and (15), Article 21 and recitals 66 to 69 in the version set out in the current final compromise text (PE-CONS 48/18):

The Federal Government agrees to the final compromise text (PE-CONS 48/18) of the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast) on the understanding that the exemption from charges and fees provided for in point (a)(ii) of Article 21(2) applies in principle only to individual self-consumption, unless the Member States provide otherwise, and that recital 69 is intended to make it clear that point (a) of Article 21(3) covers both the possibility of levying fees and charges if support is simultaneously provided via a support scheme and the possibility of applying only partial exemptions, provided that the outcome is the same: the economic viability of such projects is ensured.

### **Statement by the Czech Republic**

Having voted against the final compromise on the Directive doesn't mean that the Czech Republic would stop promoting sustainable energy policy and climate protection as laid down in the Council Conclusions of October 2014 and agreed in the Paris Agreement. The Czech Republic aims at further development and promotion of renewable energy sources to ensure the increasing role of renewable energy sources in the energy mix.

The Czech Republic will constructively contribute to the achievement of the overall EU target as well as the individual sectoral targets. These contributions will be delivered in a cost-efficient manner, taking into account the geographical and climatic conditions as well as economic possibilities of the Czech Republic. In this context, it is necessary to take into account the funds already spent to support renewable energy sources

The Czech Republic acts very responsibly and consistently in meeting the target for energy from RES until 2020. The very same approach will be pursued in the period from 2021 to 2030. This is evidenced by the fact that the binding target for RES for the year 2020 was reached by the Czech Republic 7 years earlier than required by European legislation.

<p><b>Statement by Croatia</b></p> <p>The Republic of Croatia will support the adoption but expresses its concerns regarding the level of at least 14 % of the mainstream renewable energy use in the transport sector by 2030, as already stated in the discussions within the Council.</p> <p>Although there is a need to meet the decarbonisation goals and to significantly decrease the energy consumption in order to reach the Energy Union goals, we regret that the above mentioned level of ambition was defined without taking into account the state of the economy and the different levels of technological development in the Member States.</p>	<p><b>Statement by the Commission</b></p> <p>The Commission notes that both Co-Legislators have agreed on Article 4 with the content going beyond the general principles of the Commission proposal COM(2016)767 final. While fully supporting the objectives of the Directive, the Commission considers that they could be achieved without the agreed wording of paragraphs 3 (third sub-paragraph), 4 (second and third sub-paragraphs), 5 and 6 of Article 4, as demonstrated by the currently applicable Directive 2009/28/EC.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="679 181 910 2077"> <i>Directive on empowering national competition authorities: ECN Plus Directive (EU) 2019/1 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 to empower the competition authorities of the Member States to be more effective enforcers and to ensure the proper functioning of the internal market (Text with EEA relevance)</i>            OJ L 11, 14.1.2019, p. 3–33         </td><td data-bbox="679 181 910 489">           42/18         </td><td data-bbox="679 489 910 759">           Qualified majority         </td><td data-bbox="679 759 910 2077">           All Member States in favour         </td></tr> </table> <p><b>Statement by Denmark</b></p> <p>Denmark supports the proposal and the overall aim of empowering the national competition authorities. Effective competition rules are crucial for ensuring a well-functioning Single Market and growth as competition encourages innovation, efficiency and guarantees consumers the best choice. However, Denmark finds that, as point of principle, the choice of applicable procedural law should remain a matter for the Member States, who can thereby ensure that proceedings are in line with their rules and legal traditions. Therefore, Denmark strongly regrets the wording of Article 13 of this Directive.</p> <p>Although it does not change Denmark's position on this matter, Denmark welcomes the references in Article 3 and recital 14 and 42 of this Directive, to the general principles of EU law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. These references make it clear that those rules apply in all proceedings concerning infringements of Articles 101 and 102 TFEU, including non-criminal judicial proceedings.</p>	<i>Directive on empowering national competition authorities: ECN Plus Directive (EU) 2019/1 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 to empower the competition authorities of the Member States to be more effective enforcers and to ensure the proper functioning of the internal market (Text with EEA relevance)</i> OJ L 11, 14.1.2019, p. 3–33	42/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
<i>Directive on empowering national competition authorities: ECN Plus Directive (EU) 2019/1 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 to empower the competition authorities of the Member States to be more effective enforcers and to ensure the proper functioning of the internal market (Text with EEA relevance)</i> OJ L 11, 14.1.2019, p. 3–33	42/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour			

## **Statement by the Commission**

The Commission takes note of the text of Article 11 agreed by the European Parliament and the Council on interim measures.

Interim measures can be a key tool for competition authorities to ensure that competition is not harmed while an investigation is on-going.

With a view to enabling competition authorities to deal more effectively with developments in fast-moving markets, the Commission commits that it will undertake an analysis of whether there are means to simplify the adoption of interim measures within the European Competition Network within two years from the date of transposition of this Directive. The results of this will be presented to the European Parliament and the Council.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
<i>Conclusions on Broadband in the EU Member States (CoA SR No 12/2018)</i> Council Conclusions on Special Report No 12/2018 entitled "Broadband in the EU Member States: despite progress, not all the Europe 2020 targets will be met	14395/18
<i>Conclusions on Mobility under Erasmus+ (CoA SR No 22/2018)</i> Council Conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 22/2018 "Mobility under Erasmus+. Millions of participants and multi-faceted European Added Value, however performance measurement needs to be further improved"	14077/18
<i>Council Decision on the EU position in MOP 7 regarding certain amendments to Annex 3 to the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)</i> Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds with regard to certain amendments to Annex 3 to the Agreement	14117/18

<i>Council Decision on the amendment to Protocol 3 to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement with Jordan concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation</i>	10147/1/18 REV 1		
Council Decision (EU) 2019/41 of 3 December 2018 on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, within the Association Committee established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, as regards an amendment to Protocol 3 to that Agreement concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation OJ L 9, 11.1.2019, p. 114–146			
<i>EUMM Georgia Mission - extension - Decision</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1884 of 3 December 2018 extending and amending Decision 2010/452/CFSP on the European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia, EUMM Georgia OJ L 308, 4.12.2018, p. 41–42	12776/18		
<i>Conclusions on inland waterways transport</i> Council Conclusions on Inland Waterway Transport – see its potential and promote it!	15144/18		
<b>3659th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Economic and Financial Affairs) held in Brussels on 4 December 2018</b>			
<b>LEGISLATIVE ACTS</b>			
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES
<i>VAT "quick fix"</i> <i>a) Directive as regards harmonising and simplifying certain rules in the VAT system for the taxation of trade between Member States</i>	12848/1/18 REV 1	Unanimity	All Member States in favour
Council Directive (EU) 2018/1910 of 4 December 2018 amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards the harmonisation and simplification of certain rules in the value added tax system for the taxation of trade between Member States OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 3–7			

	VAT "quick fix" b) Regulation as regards the exchange of information for monitoring the application of call-off stock arrangements Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1909 of 4 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 904/2010 as regards the exchange of information for the purpose of monitoring the correct application of call-off stock arrangements OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 1–2	12850/18	Unanimity	All Member States in favour
	VAT "quick fix" c) Regulation as regards certain exemptions for intra-Community transactions Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1912 of 4 December 2018 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 282/2011 as regards certain exemptions for intra-Community transactions OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 10–12	12849/18	Unanimity	All Member States in favour
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS				
ACT		DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS		
	<i>Council Implementing Decision on a VAT derogation for the United Kingdom as regards fixing the proportion of VAT relating to expenditure on fuel used for private purposes in business cars</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1918 of 4 December 2018 authorising the United Kingdom to apply a special measure derogating from Articles 16 and 168 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 30–31	13816/18		
	<i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Poland to continue to exempt from VAT taxable persons whose annual turnover is no higher than EUR 40 000</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1919 of 4 December 2018 amending Decision 2009/790/EC authorising the Republic of Poland to apply a measure derogating from Article 287 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 32–33	13998/18		

<p><i>Council Implementing Decision authorising the Netherlands to exempt from VAT a taxable person whose annual turnover is no higher than EUR 25 000</i></p> <p>Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1904 of 4 December 2018 authorising the Netherlands to introduce a special measure derogating from Article 285 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax</p> <p>OJ L 310, 6.12.2018, p. 25–26</p>	<p><i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Latvia to restrict the right of VAT deduction in relation to certain passenger cars</i></p> <p>Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1921 of 4 December 2018 amending Implementing Decision 2013/191/EU authorising Latvia to introduce a special measure derogating from point (a) of Article 26(1) and Articles 168 and 168a of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax</p> <p>OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 36–37</p>	<p><i>Council Implementing Decision extending the derogation for Lithuania in relation to determining the person liable for the payment of VAT</i></p> <p>Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1920 of 4 December 2018 amending Implementing Decision 2010/99/EU authorising the Republic of Lithuania to extend the application of a measure derogating from Article 193 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax</p> <p>OJ L 311, 7.12.2018, p. 34–35</p>	<p><i>Code of Conduct (Business Taxation) - Conclusions</i></p> <p>Council Conclusions on the Code of Conduct (Business Taxation),</p>	<p><i>The EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes</i></p> <p>- <i>Implementation of commitments</i></p> <p>The EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes — Report by the Code of Conduct Group (Business Taxation) suggesting amendments to Annex II of the Council conclusions of 5 December 2017</p> <p>OJ C 441, 7.12.2018, p. 3–4</p>
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<i>Conclusions on Anti-Money Laundering Action Plan</i> Council Conclusions on an Anti-Money Laundering Action Plan	14387/18
<i>Conclusions on Preventive Arm (ECA SR No 18/2018)</i> Council Conclusions on the European Court of Auditor's Special Report No 18/2018: "Is the main objective of the preventive arm of the Stability and Growth Pact delivered?"	15158/18
<i>Council Decision/recommendation on the implementation of the stability and growth pact</i> Council Decision (EU) 2018/2020 of 4 December 2018 establishing that no effective action has been taken by Romania in response to the Council Recommendation of 22 June 2018 OJ L 323, 19.12.2018, p. 16–17	14683/18
<i>Council Decision/recommendation on the implementation of the stability and growth pact</i> Council Recommendation of 4 December 2018 with a view to correcting the significant observed deviation from the adjustment path toward the medium-term budgetary objective in Romania OJ C 460, 21.12.2018, p. 1–3	14684/18
<i>Council Decision/recommendation on the implementation of the stability and growth pact</i> Council Decision (EU) 2018/2028 of 4 December 2018 establishing that no effective action has been taken by Hungary in response to the Council Recommendation of 22 June 2018 OJ L 325, 20.12.2018, p. 29–30	14685/18
<i>Council Decision/recommendation on the implementation of the stability and growth pact</i> Council Recommendation of 4 December 2018 with a view to correcting the significant observed deviation from the adjustment path toward the medium-term budgetary objective in Hungary OJ C 460, 21.12.2018, p. 4–5	14686/18

**3660th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs) held in Brussels on 6 and 7 December 2018**

<b>NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS</b>			
<b>ACT</b>	<b>DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS</b>		
Council Recommendation of 7 December 2018 on strengthened cooperation against vaccine-preventable diseases OJ C 466, 28.12.2018, p. 1–7	14152/1/18 REV 1		
<b>3661st meeting of the Council of the European Union (Justice and Home Affairs) held in Brussels on 6 and 7 December 2018</b>			
<b>LEGISLATIVE ACTS</b>			
<b>ACT</b>	<b>DOCUMENT</b>	<b>VOTING RULE</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
<i>Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 216/2013 on the electronic publication of the Official Journal of the European Union</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2056 of 6 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 216/2013 on the electronic publication of the Official Journal of the European Union OJ L 329, 27.12.2018, p. 1–2	14463/17	Unanimity	All Member States in favour
<i>Revision of Regulation on wet-lease</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/2 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 amending Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community OJ L 11, 14.1.2019, p. 1–2	61/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour, except: Against: UK

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
<i>Council Declaration on the Fight against antisemitism</i> Council Declaration on the fight against antisemitism and the development of a common security approach to better protect Jewish communities and institutions in Europe	14966/18
<i>Conclusions on strategic direction on internal security</i> Council Conclusions on the future strategic direction in the field of internal security	14806/18
<i>Council Conclusions on Alternative Development</i> Council Conclusions on Alternative Development: "Towards a new Understanding of Alternative Development and Related Development-centered Drug Policy Interventions - Contributing to the Implementation of UNGASS 2016 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals"	14338/18
<i>Council Decision on the accession of Samoa to the Interim Pacific EPA</i> Council Decision (EU) 2018/1908 of 6 December 2018 on the accession of Samoa to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part OJ L 333, 28.12.2018, p. 1–441	12281/18
<i>Council Conclusions on Mutual recognition in criminal matters</i> Council Conclusions on mutual recognition in criminal matters - "Promoting mutual recognition by enhancing mutual trust" OJ C 449, 13.12.2018, p. 6–9	15272/18

**3662nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (Foreign Affairs) held in Brussels on 10 December 2018**

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
<i>Eritrea - termination of restrictive measures - Decision and Regulation</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1944 of 10 December 2018 repealing Decision 2010/127/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Eritrea OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 60–60	14663/18
<i>Eritrea - termination of restrictive measures - Decision and Regulation</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1932 of 10 December 2018 repealing Regulation (EU) No 667/2010 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Eritrea OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 8–8	14665/18
<i>Somalia restrictive measures - transposition of UNSCR 2444 (2018) - Decision and Regulation</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1945 of 10 December 2018 amending Decision 2010/231/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Somalia OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 61–61	14668/18
<i>Somalia restrictive measures - transposition of UNSCR 2444 (2018) - Decision and Regulation</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1933 of 10 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 356/2010 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain natural or legal persons, entities or bodies, in view of the situation in Somalia OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 9–10	ST/14670/18
<i>Democratic Republic of the Congo restrictive measures - review - Decision and Implementing Regulation</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1940 of 10 December 2018 amending Decision 2010/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic Republic of the Congo OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 47–53	13868/18

<i>Democratic Republic of the Congo restrictive measures - review - Decision and Implementing Regulation</i> Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1931 of 10 December 2018 implementing Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 1–7	13870/18
<i>Restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine - new listings - Decision and Implementing Regulation</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1930 of 10 December 2018 amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine OJ L 3131, 10.12.2018, p. 5–7	14818/18
<i>Restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine - new listings - Decision and Implementing Regulation</i> Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1929 of 10 December 2018 implementing Regulation (EU) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine OJ L 3131, 10.12.2018, p. 1–4	14820/18
<i>Council Declaration on the common funding of the deployment of EU Battlegroups</i> Council Declaration on the common funding of the deployment of EU Battlegroups	15107/18
<i>South Sudan restrictive measures - UN update - Implementing Decision and Regulation</i> Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/1946 of 10 December 2018 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2015/740 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in South Sudan OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 62–64	14923/18

<i>South Sudan restrictive measures - UN update - Implementing Decision and Regulation</i> Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1934 of 10 December 2018 implementing Article 20(3) of Regulation (EU) 2015/735 concerning restrictive measures in respect of the situation in South Sudan OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 11–13	14924/18
<i>Conclusions on the EU Strategy on India</i> Council Conclusions on EU Strategy on India	14638/18
<i>Conclusions on Myanmar/Burma</i> Council Conclusions on Myanmar/Burma	15033/18
<i>Conclusions on Libya</i> Council Conclusions on Libya	15028/18
<i>Conclusions on Women, Peace and Security</i> Council Conclusions on Women, Peace and Security	15086/18
<i>EU Capacity Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia) - extension - Decision</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1942 of 10 December 2018 extending and amending Decision 2012/389/CFSP on the European Union Capacity Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia) OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 56–57	14213/18
<i>EU training mission in the Central African Republic - interoperability pillar - Decision</i> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1941 of 10 December 2018 amending Decision (CFSP) 2016/610 on a European Union military training mission in the Central African Republic OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 54–55	14160/18

<p><i>Support to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons - Decision</i>        Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1943 of 10 December 2018 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/2303 in support of the continued implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2118 (2013) and OPCW Executive Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons, in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction        OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 58–59</p>	<p>14276/18</p> <p><i>Union support for the universalization and the effective implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism - Decision</i>        Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1939 of 10 December 2018 on Union support for the universalisation and effective implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism        OJ L 314, 11.12.2018, p. 41–46</p> <p><i>Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the EU on the extension of EU-Jordan Partnership Priorities</i>        Council Decision (EU) 2019/28 of 10 December 2018 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Association Council set up by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part as regards the two-year extension of the EU-Jordan Partnership Priorities        OJ L 8, 10.1.2019, p. 27–29</p>
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## 3663rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (General Affairs) held in Brussels on 11 December 2018

LEGISLATIVE ACTS				
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES	
<i>Council's position on the second draft budget for 2019</i> Council Decision of 11 December 2018 adopting the Council's position on the second draft budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019 OJ C 451, 14.12.2018, p. 2–2	15205/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour; except: Abstention: UK	
<b>Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on payment appropriations</b>				
<p>The European Parliament and the Council recall the need to ensure, in the light of implementation, an orderly progression of payments in relation to the appropriations for commitments so as to avoid any abnormal level of unpaid invoices at year-end.</p> <p>The European Parliament and the Council call on the Commission to continue monitoring closely and actively the implementation of the 2014-2020 programmes. To that end, they invite the Commission to present, in a timely manner, updated figures concerning the state of implementation and estimates regarding payment appropriations requirements in 2019.</p> <p>If the figures show that the appropriations entered in the 2019 budget are insufficient to cover the needs, the European Parliament and the Council invite the Commission to present as soon as possible an appropriate solution, <i>inter alia</i> amending budget, with a view to allow the Budgetary Authority to take any necessary decisions in due time for duly justified needs. Where applicable, the European Parliament and the Council will take account the urgency of the matter.</p>				

## **Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the Youth Employment Initiative**

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission recall that reducing youth unemployment remains a high and shared political priority and reaffirm their determination to make the best possible use of budgetary resources to reach this goal, and in particular through the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI).

The European Parliament and the Council take note of the past experience in the context of the increase of the resources of the specific allocation for the YEI, which triggered extensive amendments to programmes to provide amounts from the European Social Fund (ESF) to match the support from the YEI specific allocation.

Therefore, the European Parliament and the Council invite the Commission to present a legislative proposal for smooth implementation of the increased budgetary resources for YEI. The European Parliament and the Council agree to swiftly examine this proposal, taking into account the upcoming European Parliament elections, to make the re-programming exercise in 2019 as smooth as possible.

## **Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the climate mainstreaming**

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission recall the importance of building a low-carbon, resource-efficient and climate resilient economy. To this end, the European Parliament and the Council agreed to invest at least 20% of the EU budget in climate-related expenditure over the period 2014-20. On average - and even though the budget 2019 alone does reach the 20% target - the current forecast for the whole 2014-20 period indicates that 19.3% of the EU budget will be allocated to climate action, mainly due to the delays in the implementation of the European Structural Investment Funds at the beginning of the period.

The European Parliament and the Council take note of this evolution and invite the Commission to make every effort to reach the 20% target for the whole 2014-20 period.

**Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission  
on the reinforcement of sub-heading 1a through an amending budget**

Due to the limited availabilities of the Flexibility Instrument and the Global Margin For Commitments, the European Parliament and the Council have agreed to budget EUR 100 million in an amending budget in 2019 to reinforce H2020 and Erasmus+. The Commission will present this amending budget, which will not contain any other elements, as soon as the technical adjustment of the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2020 including the calculation of the Global Margin for Commitments is completed in the spring of 2019. This is without prejudice to any normal technical corrections the Commission will be called upon to make to ensure an orderly execution of the 2019 budget.

The European Parliament and the Council undertake to process swiftly the draft amending budget for 2019 put forward by the Commission

**Unilateral Statement by the United Kingdom**

**on budget 2019 funding for future EEAS delegations in the United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom (UK).

- notes that the agreed Union budget for 2019 includes appropriations to finance prospective EEAS delegations in the UK, after its departure from the Union; and
- declares that this agreement to the Union budget for 2019 is entirely without prejudice to any position that the UK may subsequently take in bilateral discussions between the UK and the Union to agree the establishment of such delegations.

<i>Regulation establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) - re-commitment of the remaining amounts</i> Regulation (EU) 2018/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards the recommitment of the remaining amounts committed to support the implementation of Council Decisions (EU) 2015/1523 and (EU) 2015/1601 or the allocation of those amounts to other actions under the national programmes OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 78–81	66/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour, except: Against: HU, FI Not participating: DK, UK
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## **Statement by the Council**

The Council declares that its agreement on the re-commitment or transfer of the remaining amounts under the Asylum, Migration and Integration fund national programmes, which exceptionally involves an extension of the de-commitment period and the re-commitment of amounts, is due to the very particular and exceptional circumstances regarding the implementation of relocation decisions and will not constitute a precedent as it is limited to this specific case concerning AMIF.

## **Statement by Hungary**

Tackling the migration problem at its core requires a new approach as set out by the June 2018 Conclusions of the European Council in order to definitively break the business model of the smugglers, eliminate the incentives to embark on perilous journeys and stem the illegal inflow of migrants. Dedicating at least 20% of the recommitted amounts once again to relocation and resettlement is not only contrary to the main objectives set out by the European Council, but would result in similarly low efficiency of implementation and could also serve as a pull factor. Hungary also wishes to reconfirm the strictly voluntary nature of relocation and resettlement in accordance with the June 2018 Conclusions of the European Council; the suggested approach of earmarking 20% of the recommitted amount to such actions therefore also seems to contradict the voluntary nature of these and what has been agreed by all the Member States. Furthermore, it imposes a de facto financial penalty for those Member States, which – as their free choice of policy – do not implement relocations or resettlements.

While there is a financing gap in the field of external dimension, we cannot miss the opportunity of dedicating as much available resources as possible to catering for these needs. Hungary is therefore determined to continue and reinforce the new approach to prevent a return to the uncontrolled flows of 2015 and to further stem illegal migration on all existing and emerging routes. Accordingly, Hungary recalls the need for complete flexibility in allocating the remaining amounts.

Hungary therefore declares that it does not support the proposal, especially the suggested approach of allocating at least 20% of the recommitted amounts to actions under the national programmes for the transfer of applicants for or beneficiaries of international protection, for resettlement or other ad-hoc humanitarian admissions, as well as other solidarity measures in relation to disembarkations in the EU following search and rescue operations.

<b>Statement by Finland</b>							
Finland would like to declare that the Council Decisions (EU) 2015/1523 and (EU) 2015/1601 required actions in the field of relocation, and that the funding from Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) was originally allocated for the implementation of these Decisions. Finland regrets that the original purposes of the Council decisions were not respected by all Member States.							
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACT</th><th>NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td>DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Council Implementing Decision on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) arrangements</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of 11 December 2018 on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 28–34</td><td>13422/18</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	ACT	NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS		DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS	<i>Council Implementing Decision on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) arrangements</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of 11 December 2018 on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 28–34	13422/18
ACT	NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS						
	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS						
<i>Council Implementing Decision on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) arrangements</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of 11 December 2018 on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 28–34	13422/18						
	<p><b>Statement by the Commission and the High Representative</b></p> <p>The Commission and the High Representative consider that the Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements that were agreed in 2013 function well, are flexible and allow coverage of a wide range of crises. In the absence of a review indicating deficiencies, there are no reasons justifying the adoption of the draft Council Implementing Decision on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements.</p> <p>The Commission and the High Representative express concern that the draft Council Implementing Decision does not have an appropriate legal basis, risks narrowing the scope of the Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements, and transforms voluntary commitments into legal obligations for the Commission and the High Representative.</p> <p>The Commission and the High Representative therefore declare that they consider this Decision not binding on the institution and the High Representative and reserve their rights.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Commission suggests postponing the consideration of any changes to be made to the arrangements, if necessary, on the basis of lessons learnt from their first activation during the migration/refugee crisis.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Commission services and the EEAS will continue to respect commitments according to the arrangements agreed in 2013, including those related to the delivery of Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis reports.</p>						

<i>Conclusions on a homogeneous extended single market and EU relations with Non-EU Western countries</i>	15561/18
Council Conclusions on a homogeneous extended internal market and EU relations with Non-EU Western European countries	
<b>Statement by Hungary</b>	
While the Council welcomes the progress made in the negotiations on and the signing of Memoranda of Understanding with most of the beneficiary countries for the 2014-2021 funding period in the Council conclusions, Hungary would like draw the attention that these negotiations are still ongoing with Hungary.	
The negotiations have started in 2016 with Norway in order to reach a Memoranda of Understanding, where Norway has shown constructiveness and readiness to find a well-balanced solution at that time. The financial mechanisms that are provided unconditionally to Member States shall reflect the benefits Norway draws from its participation in the internal market of the enlarged European Union. Despite the many concessions granted at EU and national level to Norway, Hungary is of the view that the same engagement and willingness is missing from the partner in order to conclude a reasonable Memoranda of Understanding. Hungary underlines the need that to reach an agreement on a Memoranda of Understanding, the willingness of the negotiating partner - based on the principles of equal partnership - is necessary.	
In spite of all these above, Hungary does not want to block the adoption of the Council conclusions and there can accept the text.	
<i>Conclusions on the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism</i>	15187/18
Council Conclusions on the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism	
<i>Decision on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and to finance immediate budgetary measures to address the on-going migration, refugee inflows and security threats</i>	15206/18
Decision (EU) 2019/276 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2018 on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and to finance immediate budgetary measures to address the ongoing challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats OJ L 54, 22.2.2019, p. 3–4	

<i>Decision on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund to provide for the payment of advances in 2019</i> Decision (EU) 2019/277 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2018 on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund to provide for the payment of advances in the general budget of the Union for 2019 OJ L 54, 22.2.2019, p. 5–5	15208/18
<i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Latvia to apply reverse charge mechanism to timber transactions</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/2006 of 11 December 2018 amending Implementing Decision 2009/1008/EU authorising the Republic of Latvia to extend the application of a measure derogating from Article 193 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 20–21	14473/18
<i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Croatia to limit the right of VAT deduction in relation to certain passenger cars</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1994 of 11 December 2018 authorising Croatia to introduce a special measure derogating from point (a) of Article 26(1) and Article 168 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 35–37	14474/18
<i>Conclusions on the 2007-2013 programmes absorption and results (ECA SR No 17/2018)</i> Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 17/2018 by the European Court of Auditors: Commission's and Member States' actions in the last years of the 2007- 2013 programmes tackled low absorption but had insufficient focus on results OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 35–37	14461/18
<i>Conclusions on the result orientation of ERDF and ESF projects in 2014-2020 (ECA SR No 21/2018)</i> Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 21/2018 by the European Court of Auditors: Selection and monitoring for ERDF and ESF projects in the 2014-2020 period are still mainly outputs-oriented	14933/18

<p><i>Council Regulation opening and providing for the management of autonomous Union tariff quotas for certain fishery products for the period 2019-2020</i></p> <p>Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1977 of 11 December 2018 opening and providing for the management of autonomous Union tariff quotas for certain fishery products for the period 2019–2020 OJ L 317, 14.12.2018, p. 2–8</p>	<p>14460/18</p> <p><b>Statement by the Commission, Germany and Sweden</b></p> <p>Acknowledging that the quota on herrings (no 09.2792) in Council Regulation (EU) 2015/2265 of 7 December 2015 on ATQs is not included in the Council Regulation for the period 2019-2020 on ATQs.</p> <p>Taking note that the reason for the non-inclusion of this quota is that the needs of the processing industry are deemed to be met by two duty-free Union tariff quotas between EU and Norway.</p> <p>Recognizing that the largest duty-free Union tariff quota for herrings, spiced and/or vinegar-cured, in brine, between EU and Norway expires early 2021, which almost coincides with the expiry of the ATQ Regulation at the end of 2020. This risks creating uncertainty and unpredictability for the EU processing industry which is dependent on import for this product.</p> <p>Reiterating the aim of the ATQ regulation as to ensure an adequate supply to the Union processing industry as well as certainty and predictability for the EU operators</p> <p><i>Acknowledge that possible changes in trade preferences should be taken into account for a potential new ATQ Regulation for the period after 2020.</i></p> <p><b>Statement by Germany</b></p> <p><b>German understanding of quota no. 09.2750 – Hard fish roes, washed, cleaned of adherent organs and simply salted or in brine, for processing of caviar substitute</b></p> <p>Germany can accept quota no. 09.2750 on hard fish roes as laid down in Council Working Doc. 13323/1/18 REV 1 in the understanding that the product is identical with quota no. 09.2750 of Council Regulation (EU) 2015/2665 of 7 December 2015 and that the change in the CN code is technical in nature.</p>
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## 3664th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Agriculture) held in Brussels on 17 and 18 December 2018

LEGISLATIVE ACTS					
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES		
<i>Trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment (codification)</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/125 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 concerning trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 1–57	59/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour		
<i>Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 168/2013 on the type approval of two- or three-wheel vehicles and quadricycles</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/129 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 amending Regulation (EU) No 168/2013 as regards the application of the Euro 5 step to the type-approval of two- or three-wheel vehicles and quadricycles OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 106–111	65/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour		
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS					
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS				
<i>Council Regulation fixing for 2019 and 2020 the fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2025 of 17 December 2018 fixing for 2019 and 2020 the fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks OJ L 325, 20.12.2018, p. 7–17	14418/18				

## **Joint Statement by France and Spain**

### **on red seabream in Union and international waters of 6-8**

The ICES scientific advice sets out that the stock of red seabream in areas 6-8 is seriously depleted and advises that there should be zero catches for this stock in 2019 and 2020. Since 2014 the ICES advice has been to reduce mortality by all means, to allow the stock to rebuild, and avoid a further collapse. ICES furthermore recommend that measures be put in place to protect juveniles.

By 1 March 2019, taking into account national specificities, Member States concerned commit to implement coordinated national plans necessary for rebuilding the stock of red seabream in ICES subareas 6-8, in particular through measures such as:

- Closing for commercial and recreational fishing the areas where juveniles occur on the basis of scientific evidence, as identified by the Member States;
- Increasing minimum size to 35cm, to incentivize avoiding catching red seabream that has not reached the size of maturing into females;
- Fixing catch limits per vessel and per trip to ensure that red seabream is only fished as a by-catch species;
- Undertaking a scientific research project with the view to finding ways to avoid catching juvenile red seabream in the longline and otter trawl fleets that account for the main share of the catches. This project should, as recommended by STECF, include improving the biological knowledge on species reproduction and maturity stages and update the estimates of size/age at maturity as male and female, the size-as sex-change and the proportion of gonochoric individuals.

The above coordinated national plans will be communicated to the Commission by 1 March 2019 and will be assessed by the STECF, in order to ensure that the plan is comprehensive and effective. Should the STECF assess that additional measures need to be taken to ensure an improvement in the state of the stock, then Member States commit to review this plan and the relevant national measures in light of the recommendations by the STECF. The above measures may, as appropriate, be included in the joint recommendations from the relevant Member States Groups. Member States concerned will agree on necessary quota swaps to avoid "choke" situations.

## **Joint Statement by Spain and Portugal**

### **on red seabream in Union and international waters of 9**

Spain and Portugal will agree on necessary quota swaps for red seabream in ICES subarea 9 to avoid "choke" situations.

## **Joint Statement by Spain and Portugal**

### **on alfonsinos in Union and international waters of 3-10, 12 and 14**

Spain and Portugal will agree on necessary quota swaps for alfonsinos in ICES subareas 3-10, 12 and 14 to avoid "choke" situations.

#### **Statement by Denmark**

##### **on roundnose grenadier in Union and international waters of 3**

Denmark supports the Presidency compromise for a Council Regulation fixing for 2019 and 2020 the fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks. It is important to ensure effective protection of vulnerable deep-sea stocks.

Following the implementation of the landing obligation, it is important to avoid that a stock develops to a choke species. This is the reason why Denmark has argued for a long term solution for roundnose grenadier in Union waters of 3. Denmark recognizes that roundnose grenadier in this area will probably not be a choke species for the moment. However, should a problem arise in 2019 or 2020, Denmark should urge for a swift solution.

#### **Statement by the Commission**

##### **on deletions of TACs for deep-sea species**

Where TACs have been deleted in the deep-sea fishing opportunities for 2019-2020, as is the case for greater forkbeard in 1-10, 12, roundnose grenadier in 1, 2, 4 and black scabbardfish in 1-4, the Commission will continue monitoring the development of these stocks in light of the best available scientific advice.

*Council Regulation fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the Black Sea* | 14292/18

Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2058 of 17 December 2018 fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the Black Sea  
OJ L 329, 27.12.2018, p. 8-12

### **Statement by Bulgaria and Romania**

Bulgaria and Romania, in the context of the adoption of the Regulation fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in the Black Sea and having recognized the importance of continuing implementing a robust monitoring, control and surveillance system in achieving sustainable use of fisheries marine resources in the Black Sea, commit to the following:

1. To follow up and further implement:
  - a) **Turbot fisheries**
    - to keep the fishing authorisations for turbot at 116 for Bulgaria and 53 for Romania and the minimum allocation per vessel,
    - to establish their respective number of designated ports for landings, 8 for Bulgaria and 13 for Romania, in order to streamline the control of landings,
    - to continue the strict policy for the recording of all catches, including below 50 kg, in corresponding logbooks, landing declarations and sales notes of all authorised vessels,
    - to keep, at least to the level of 2018, the number of market inspections and inspections at sea, including during the closed season, based on a risk assessment methodology and time schedule agreed with the European Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA),
    - to keep or increase in 2019 the joint inspection actions under the coordination of EFCA, including controls at sea, at landings, on the markets as well as the monitoring of the transport of fish by road,
    - to monitor the discards in the *Raja whelk* fishery, in order to evaluate the impact on juveniles of turbot, complementary to the provisions of the GFCM multiannual management plan for turbot fisheries in Black Sea,
    - to increase by 10% the control at sea of the implementation of the marking and identification of the static gears in accordance with European Union rules,
    - to statistically monitor the imports/exports of turbot to and from the European Union,
    - to work with the Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) in implementing Recommendation GFCM/41/2017/4 (turbot MAP), as well as any other measures that are deemed necessary to address the misreporting, the IUU fishery of turbot in the Black Sea and the marketing of the catches illegally caught in the region.

<p>b) <u>Picked dogfish fisheries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep their respective catches of picked dogfish in 2019 to their 2015 level of catches and to inform the Commission on a quarterly basis of the actions taken to meet this objective,</li> <li>• to continue implementing the strict policy adopted in 2016 for the recording of all catches, including below 50 kg, in corresponding logbooks, landing declarations and sales notes of all authorised vessels as well as vessels having by-catches of dogfish.</li> <li>• to further improve data collection on dogfish, catches and by-catches, and make data available.</li> </ul> <p>2. Catch registration</p> <p>To appropriately address any control weaknesses in the catch registration system identified in recent audits by the Commission services, so as to ensure full compliance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 and with its implementing measures.</p>	<p><b>Statement by Council and Commission</b></p> <p><b>on control issues</b></p> <p>The Council and the Commission consider that it is a high priority to address the endemic existence of IUU fishery of turbot in the Black Sea through the effective implementation of the Regional Plan of Action to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the GFCM area of application and of the joint control and inspection pilot scheme in the context of the multiannual management plan of turbot in the Black Sea.</p> <p>Control and monitoring measures should be at least maintained or further increased, as stipulated in the declaration by Bulgaria and Romania. The relevant Member States should dedicate the necessary efforts and resources to enhance their control system and to ensure effectiveness of the measures that have been decided.</p> <p>Furthermore, the EU will seek to ensure that GFCM pay particular attention to the full compliance of its Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties to implement the Regional Plan of Action to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the Black Sea, to implement the mid-term strategy 2017-2020 adopted by GFCM in 2016, the Sofia Ministerial Declaration signed by the Black Sea Fisheries Ministers in June 2018 and the Blacksea4fish project in line with the Bucharest Declaration.</p>
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<p><i>Council Decision in support of gender mainstreamed policies, programmes and actions in the fight against small arms trafficking and misuse</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2011 of 17 December 2018 in support of gender mainstreamed policies, programmes and actions in the fight against small arms trafficking and misuse, in line with the Women, Peace and Security agenda</p> <p>OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 38–50</p>	<p>14645/18</p>
<p><i>Council Decision on the extension of the EU Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission (EUBAM) in Libya</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2009 of 17 December 2018 amending and extending Decision 2013/233/CFSP on the European Union Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM Libya)</p> <p>OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 25–26</p>	<p>14056/18</p>
<p><i>Council Decision and Regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2012 of 17 December 2018 amending Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya</p> <p>OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 51–52</p>	<p>14809/18</p>
<p><i>Council Decision and Regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya</i></p> <p>Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2004 of 17 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) 2016/44 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya</p> <p>OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 12–13</p>	<p>14811/18</p>
<p><i>EUCAP Sahel Mali Mission - no-cost extension - Decision</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2008 of 17 December 2018 amending and extending Decision 2014/219/CFSP on the European Union CSDP Mission in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali)</p> <p>OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 24–24</p>	<p>14673/18</p>

<p><i>Operation Atalanta - information transfer and UN update - Decision</i>        Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2007 of 17 December 2018 amending Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast        OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 22–23</p> <p><i>Countering Illicit Proliferation and Trafficking of Small Arms, Light Weapons (SALW) and Ammunition and their Impact in Latin America and the Caribbean in the framework of the EU Strategy against illicit Firearms, Small Arms &amp; Light Weapons and their Ammunition "Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens" - Decision</i>        Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2010 of 17 December 2018 in support of countering illicit proliferation and trafficking of small arms, light weapons (SALW) and ammunition and their impact in Latin America and the Caribbean in the framework of the EU Strategy against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms &amp; Light Weapons and their Ammunition 'Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens',        OJ L 322, 18.12.2018, p. 27–37</p>	<p>14703/18</p> <p>14502/18</p>				
<p><b>3665th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) held in Brussels on 19 December 2018</b></p> <p><b>NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="822 128 869 2091">ACT</th> <th data-bbox="869 128 1102 2091">DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="822 128 1102 2091"> <p><i>Council Decision on the budget 2019 to be adopted by the Regional Steering Committee</i>        Council Decision (EU) 2019/3 of 19 December 2018 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Regional Steering Committee of the Transport Community as regards certain budgetary matters in relation to the implementation of the Treaty establishing the Transport Community        OJ L 1, 3.1.2019, p. 1–4</p> </td><td data-bbox="869 128 1102 2091"> <p>15204/18</p> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS	<p><i>Council Decision on the budget 2019 to be adopted by the Regional Steering Committee</i>        Council Decision (EU) 2019/3 of 19 December 2018 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Regional Steering Committee of the Transport Community as regards certain budgetary matters in relation to the implementation of the Treaty establishing the Transport Community        OJ L 1, 3.1.2019, p. 1–4</p>	<p>15204/18</p>	
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS				
<p><i>Council Decision on the budget 2019 to be adopted by the Regional Steering Committee</i>        Council Decision (EU) 2019/3 of 19 December 2018 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Regional Steering Committee of the Transport Community as regards certain budgetary matters in relation to the implementation of the Treaty establishing the Transport Community        OJ L 1, 3.1.2019, p. 1–4</p>	<p>15204/18</p>				

**3666th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Environment) held in Brussels on 20 December 2018**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS					
ACT	DOCUMENT	VOTING RULE	VOTES		
<i>VAT Generalised Reverse Charge Mechanism goods and services</i> Council Directive (EU) 2018/2057 of 20 December 2018 amending Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax as regards the temporary application of a generalised reverse charge mechanism in relation to supplies of goods and services above a certain threshold OJ L 329, 27.12.2018, p. 3–7	12852/18	Unanimity	All Member States in favour		
<i>Regulation on Cedefop</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/128 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 90–105	64/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour		

## **Commission Statement**

The Commission regrets that the co-legislators have decided to deviate on several points from the Common Approach of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission on decentralised agencies of 19 July 2012, without providing the necessary justification. The deletion of the sunset/review clause is not in line with the Common Approach. However, the absence of the sunset clause in the Founding Regulations will not affect in any way the Commission's right of initiative.

The Commission also regrets the deviation from the Common Approach with regard to the process for conducting an overall evaluation of the Agency referring to the need to consult stakeholders, including Members of Parliament and of the Management Board, during the evaluation of the work of agencies. The Commission recalls that such evaluations have to be conducted in full independence. In carrying out evaluations, the Commission will apply its usual practices for stakeholder consultation activities.

The Commission will assess the impact of the deviations from the Common Approach on the functioning of the tripartite agencies at the appropriate opportunity. They should not be considered as a precedent for other agencies.

Finally, the Commission regrets the re-introduction of the function of Deputy Director in the Founding Regulation of Eurofound. The Commission would like to recall that, given the size of this Agency, this provision is disproportionate.

The Commission would also like to stress that it is now the Executive Director's responsibility to decide on the internal structures of each Agency and for CEDEFOP to define the necessary deputising arrangements to ensure continuity of service.

### **Statement by Italy**

Italy has been among the most active delegations during the negotiations in the Council on the three files and contributed to the achievement of the General Approach in December 2016.

Italy also contributed positively during the course of the trilogues, by showing flexibility towards the requests of the European Parliament, while keeping the spirit of the General Approach in Council.

With the Common Approach of 2012 and the tripartite nature of the three agencies in mind, we have tried to keep the maximum degree of homogeneity among them, in terms of governance and rules.

The appointment of a Deputy Director by the Executive Director for Eurofound and Cedefop - for the first one on a mandatory basis, for the second on a voluntary basis – is not consistent with the strategic role of the Managing Board, which is the Appointing Authority in the three Agencies.

For this reason, without opposing the agreement, we express our deep regret.

<i>Regulation on EU-OSHA</i>	62/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
Regulation (EU) 2019/126 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2062/94 OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 58–73			

## **Commission Statement**

The Commission regrets that the co-legislators have decided to deviate on several points from the Common Approach of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission on decentralised agencies of 19 July 2012, without providing the necessary justification.

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## **Statement by Italy**

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For this reason, without opposing the agreement, we express our deep regret.

<i>Regulation on Eurofound</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/127 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Eurofound), and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 74–89	63/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour
<p><b>Commission statement</b></p> <p>The Commission regrets that the co-legislators have decided to deviate on several points from the Common Approach of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission on decentralised agencies of 19 July 2012, without providing the necessary justification.</p> <p>The deletion of the sunset/review clause is not in line with the Common Approach. However, the absence of the sunset clause in the Founding Regulations will not affect in any way the Commission's right of initiative.</p> <p>The Commission also regrets the deviation from the Common Approach with regard to the process for conducting an overall evaluation of the Agency referring to the need to consult stakeholders, including Members of Parliament and of the Management Board, during the evaluation of the work of agencies. The Commission recalls that such evaluations have to be conducted in full independence. In carrying out evaluations, the Commission will apply its usual practices for stakeholder consultation activities.</p> <p>The Commission will assess the impact of the deviations from the Common Approach on the functioning of the tripartite agencies at the appropriate opportunity. They should not be considered as a precedent for other agencies.</p> <p>Finally, the Commission regrets the re-introduction of the function of Deputy Director in the Founding Regulation of Eurofound. The Commission would like to recall that, given the size of this Agency, this provision is disproportionate.</p> <p>The Commission would also like to stress that it is now the Executive Director's responsibility to decide on the internal structures of each Agency and for CEDEFOP to define the necessary deputising arrangements to ensure continuity of service.</p>			

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For this reason, without opposing the agreement, we express our deep regret.

<i>Revision of Directive on carcinogens and mutagens at work (second batch)</i> Directive (EU) 2019/130 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 112–120	60/18	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour, except: Against: UK
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## Statement by the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom strongly supports Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work and the Commission limit setting process, which involves a thorough assessment process to consider scientific, technical and socio-economic factors and the views of stakeholders, including the social partners.

The United Kingdom recognises the legitimate concerns that exist regarding exposure to diesel engine exhaust emissions and exposure to these emissions has been subject to controls in the UK for over 20 years. Binding occupational exposure limits should only be included in the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive, however, once they have successfully completed the limit setting process. The UK regrets that this process was not followed in setting a binding occupational exposure limit for elemental carbon as a marker for diesel engine exhaust emissions. Whilst the UK continues to support action to tackle exposure to diesel engine exhaust emissions, we cannot support the way in which this limit has been set and therefore cannot support this change to the Directive.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS			
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour; except: Abstention: DE
<i>Regulation on Brexit type-approval</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/26 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 January 2019 complementing Union type-approval legislation with regard to the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union (Text with EEA relevance) OJ L 81 , 10.1.2019, p. 1–7	67/18		

<i>Regulation on quotas for certain agricultural and industrial products</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2070 of 20 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 1388/2013 opening and providing for the management of autonomous tariff quotas of the Union for certain agricultural and industrial products OJ L 331, 28.12.2018, p. 197–209	13271/18
<i>Regulation on suspensions on certain agricultural and industrial products</i> Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2069 of 20 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural and industrial products OJ L 331, 28.12.2018, p. 4–196	15345/18
<i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Belgium to exempt from VAT certain taxable persons</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/2077 of 20 December 2018 amending Implementing Decision 2013/53/EU authorising the Kingdom of Belgium to introduce a special measure derogating from Article 285 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 331, 28.12.2018, p. 222–223	14616/18
<i>Council Implementing Decision authorising Germany to extend a derogation in relation to VAT borne on certain goods and services</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/2060 of 20 December 2018 amending Decision 2009/791/EC authorising Germany to continue to apply a measure derogating from Articles 168 and 168a of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax OJ L 329, 27.12.2018, p. 20–21	14617/18
<i>Update of the population figures of the Union - Decision</i> Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2018/2076 of 20 December 2018 amending the Council's Rules of Procedure OJ L 331, 28.12.2018, p. 218–221	15270/18

<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Portugal police cooperation</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2017 evaluation of the Portuguese Republic on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation	14932/18
<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Sweden external border</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the serious deficiencies identified in the 2017 evaluation of Sweden on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external border	14930/18
<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Norway return</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2017 evaluation of Norway on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of return	14889/18
<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - The Netherlands external border</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2017 evaluation of the Netherlands on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external border (Border Crossing Points EUROPoORT, Hoek van Holland, Rotterdam the Hague Airport and the National Coordination Centre)	14891/18
<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Latvia visa policy</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2018 evaluation of Latvia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the common visa policy	14887/18
<i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Spain police cooperation</i> Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2017 evaluation of the Kingdom of Spain on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation	14936/18

<p><i>Schengen evaluation Recommendation - Switzerland police cooperation</i></p> <p>Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2018 evaluation of the Swiss Confederation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation</p>	<p>14928/18</p> <p><i>Council Decision on the conclusion with Antigua and Barbuda</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2019/75 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Antigua and Barbuda amending the Agreement between the European Community and Antigua and Barbuda on the short-stay visa waiver</p> <p>OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 1–3</p>	<p>12383/17</p> <p>Agreement between the European Union and Antigua and Barbuda amending the Agreement between the European Community and Antigua and Barbuda on the short-stay visa waiver</p> <p>OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 4–7</p>	<p>12382/17</p> <p><i>Council Decision on the conclusion with Barbados</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2019/76 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Barbados amending the Agreement between the European Community and Barbados on the short-stay visa waiver</p> <p>OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 8–10</p>	<p>12385/17</p> <p>Agreement between the European Union and Barbados amending the Agreement between the European Community and Barbados on the short-stay visa waiver</p> <p>OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 11–14</p>	

Agreement between the European Union and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 18–21	12388/17
<i>Council Decision on the conclusion with the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/80 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 36–38	12393/17
Agreement between the European Union and the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 39–42	12391/17
<i>Council Decision on the conclusion with the Republic of Mauritius</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/78 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Mauritius on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 22–24	12396/17
Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Mauritius on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 25–28	12395/17

<i>Council Decision on the conclusion with the Republic of Seychelles</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/79 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Seychelles amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Seychelles on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 29–31	12399/17
Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Seychelles amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Seychelles on the short-stay visa waiver OJ L 18, 21.1.2019, p. 32–35	12398/17
<i>Conclusions on the European Court of Auditors Special Report "The EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence"</i> Council Conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' special report No 14/2018 entitled "The EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence: more progress needed" <i>Conclusion of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement</i> Council Decision (EU) 2018/1907 of 20 December 2018 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership OJ L 330, 27.12.2018, p. 1–2	15766/18
Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership OJ L 330, 27.12.2018, p. 3–899	7964/18
<i>Council Decision on opening Article XXVIII negotiations with Switzerland on seasoned meat</i> Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with Switzerland under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 for an agreement regarding the modification of Switzerland's WTO concessions on meat not further prepared than seasoned	14471/18

<i>Council Decision authorising negotiations for amending tariff rate quota for poultry meat set up in the Association Agreement with Ukraine</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/52 of 20 December 2018 authorising the opening of negotiations for an agreement amending the existing tariff rate quota for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations and amending the existing tariff regime for other poultry cuts, set out in Annex I-A to Chapter 1 of the Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part OJ L 10, 14.1.2019, p. 62–63	15078/18
<i>Council Decision on the EU position at the COP to the Rotterdam Convention on compliance</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/53 of 20 December 2018 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention regarding compliance procedures OJ L 10, 14.1.2019, p. 64–70	15143/18
<i>Council Decision on the EU position on the extension of the EU-PA Action Plan</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/222 of 20 December 2018 on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, within the Joint Committee established by the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority (PA) of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, concerning the extension of the EU-PA Action Plan OJ L 35, 7.2.2019, p. 32–34	15113/18
<i>Council Decision on the EU position on the extension of the EU-Israel Action Plan</i> Council Decision (EU) 2019/105 of 20 December 2018 on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, within the Association Council established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part, concerning the extension of the EU-Israel Action Plan OJ L 21, 24.1.2019, p. 64–65	15114/18

<b>Written procedures completed on 21 December 2018</b>	
	NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS
ACT	DOCUMENT / STATEMENTS
Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2054 of 21 December 2018 amending Decision 2013/184/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Myanmar/Burma OJ L 3271, 21.12.2018, p. 5–8	15036/18
Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/2078 of 21 December 2018 amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine OJ L 331, 28.12.2018, p. 224–224	15262/18