



Council of the  
European Union

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#### COVER NOTE

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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	21 May 2019
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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No. Cion doc.:	C(2019) 3928 final
Subject:	COMMISSION DECISION of 21.5.2019 on the Joint Declaration Eastern Partnership - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward

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Delegations will find attached document C(2019) 3928 final.

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Encl.: C(2019) 3928 final



Brussels, 21.5.2019  
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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 21.5.2019**

**on the Joint Declaration Eastern Partnership - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward**

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 21.5.2019

### on the Joint Declaration **Eastern Partnership** - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 17(1) of the Treaty on European Union lists the powers of the Commission and provides in particular that the Commission is to ensure the Union's external representation, with the exception of the common foreign and security policy and other cases provided for in the Treaties.
- (2) In the context of the 10th anniversary of the **Eastern Partnership** cooperation framework and in line with the document '20 Deliverables for 2020' as endorsed at the last **Eastern Partnership** Summit in November 2017, the Joint Declaration aims to take stock of the main achievements of regional transport cooperation with the following six neighbouring countries of the **Eastern Partnership** – the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. The Joint Declaration aims to call for further engagement with the six Eastern Partner Countries in the transport sector.
- (3) From 7 May to 10 May, negotiations took place between representatives of the Commission and of the six Eastern Partner Countries with a view to drawing up a non-binding instrument setting out political commitments with regard to regional transport cooperation especially in the field of TEN-T policy and road safety. The Joint Declaration '**Eastern Partnership** - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward' (The Joint Declaration) is the result of those discussions.
- (4) The envisaged date for endorsement of the Joint Declaration on behalf of the Union is 6 June 2019 at the occasion of the **Eastern Partnership** Transport Ministerial Meeting in Luxembourg.
- (5) The Council has been kept informed of the discussions and of the envisaged date for endorsing the Joint Declaration.
- (6) The Joint Declaration does not, nor is it intended to, create any legal obligations on either side under domestic or international law.
- (7) Given the interest of the Union in the continuous regional transport cooperation with the six Eastern Partner Countries, it is appropriate to endorse the Joint Declaration.
- (8) It is necessary to submit the Joint Declaration to the Council for endorsement, prior to its endorsement by the Commission on behalf of the Union.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

The Joint Declaration Eastern Partnership - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward', as attached to this Decision, is approved.

The text of the Joint Declaration 'Eastern Partnership - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward' is submitted to the Council for endorsement.

*Article 2*

The Member of the Commission responsible for Mobility and Transport or the person designated by her is authorised to endorse the Joint Declaration 'Eastern Partnership - taking the transport cooperation agenda forward' on behalf of the Union, after its endorsement by the Council.

Done at Brussels, 21.5.2019

*For the Commission*  
*Violeta BULC*  
*Member of the Commission*