



Council of the
European Union

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DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space))
9 and 10 June 2022

CONTENTS

Page

1. Adoption of the agenda..... 4
2. Approval of "A" items 4
Non-legislative list

Legislative deliberations

INTERNAL MARKET AND INDUSTRY

3. Directive on consumer credits 4
4. Regulation establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem (Chips Act) 4

Non-legislative activities

5. Strengthening the resilience of Europe's strategic industrial ecosystems 4

Any other business

6. a) Current legislative proposals 5
Directive empowering consumers for the green transition
- b) Work programme of the incoming Presidency 5

RESEARCH

7. Conclusions on European missions 5
8. Conclusions on principles and values for international cooperation in research and innovation 5
9. Conclusions on research assessment and implementation of open science..... 5
10. Supporting young researchers in times of crisis 6

SPACE

11. Conclusions on Copernicus by 2035 6
12. Conclusions on an EU approach to space traffic management 6
13. Resilience and competitiveness of the Union Space Programme..... 6

Any other business

Research

14. a) Events and activities during the French Presidency..... 6
b) State of play of the implementation of the new governance of the European
Research Area 6
c) Work programme of the incoming Presidency 7

Space

- d) Work programme of the incoming Presidency 7

ANNEX - Statements for the Council minutes 8

MEETING ON THURSDAY 9 JUNE 2022

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in 9634/22.

2. Approval of 'A' items

Non-legislative list

9640/22

The Council adopted the "A" items listed in 9640/22 including COR and REV documents presented for adoption. Statements to these items are set out in the Addendum.

INTERNAL MARKET AND INDUSTRY

Legislative deliberations

(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

3. Directive on consumer credits

General approach



9433/1/22 REV 1

+ **REV 1 COR 1**

+ ADD 1

The Council adopted the general approach as set out in document 9433/1/22 REV 1 + REV 1 COR 1. A joint statement by Estonia and Lithuania is annexed to these Council minutes.

4. Regulation establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem (Chips Act)

Progress report

Policy debate



9361/22

9178/22

6170/22 + ADD 1

The Council took note of the progress report as set out in 9361/22.

The Council held a policy debate based on questions set out in 9178/22.

Non-legislative activities

5. Strengthening the resilience of Europe's strategic industrial ecosystems

Policy debate




9179/22

The Council held a policy debate based on questions set out in 9179/22.

Any other business

6. (a) **Current legislative proposals**
(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

Directive empowering consumers for the green transition  7808/22 + ADD 1
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- (b) Work programme of the incoming Presidency
Information from the Czech delegation

MEETING ON FRIDAY 10 JUNE 2022

Non-legislative activities

RESEARCH

7. **Conclusions on European missions**  9517/1/22 REV 1
Approval + ADD 1

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in 10124/22. A statement by the Polish delegation is annexed to these Council minutes.

8. **Conclusions on principles and values for international cooperation in research and innovation**  9524/1/22 REV 1
Approval + ADD 1-2

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in 10125/22. A statement by the Council and a statement by the Polish delegation are annexed to these Council minutes.

9. **Conclusions on research assessment and implementation of open science**  9515/22 + ADD 1
Approval

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in 10126/22. A statement by the Polish delegation is annexed to these Council minutes.

10. **Supporting young researchers in times of crisis** [2] 9182/22
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate based on questions as set out in 9182/22.

SPACE

11. **Conclusions on Copernicus by 2035** [2] 9389/22
Approval

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in 10070/22.

12. **Conclusions on an EU approach to space traffic management** [2] 9395/22
Approval

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in 10071/22.

13. **Resilience and competitiveness of the Union Space Programme** [2] 9175/22
Policy debate

The Council held a policy debate based on questions as set out in 9175/22.

Any other business

Research

14. (a) **Events and activities during the French Presidency** [2] 9455/22
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- (b) **State of play of the implementation of the new governance of the European Research Area** [2] 9578/22
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission.

- (c) Work programme of the incoming Presidency
Information from the Czech delegation

Space

- (d) Work programme of the incoming Presidency
Information from the Czech delegation

-
- 1** First reading
- 2** Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
- C** Item based on a Commission proposal
-

Statements to the legislative "B" items set out in doc. 9634/22

Ad "B" item 3:

Directive on consumer credits

Adoption of a general approach

JOINT STATEMENT BY ESTONIA AND LITHUANIA

"Estonia and Lithuania welcome the main objective of the Commission proposal to modernise and strengthen consumer credit rules in order to cater for changes brought about by digitalisation whilst creating a high level of consumer protection and helping the internal market function smoothly. However, this should be achieved by a reasonable balance that among other things avoids unnecessary burden on traders and disproportionate interference in well-functioning markets.

In this context, we welcome the final compromise text of the French Presidency, because there are many aspects that take into account these underlying principles. However, we have from the beginning supported to exclude credits free of interest and without any other charges from the scope of the Directive as is currently the case. In our view, including these types of credits would bring along disproportionate burden for the traders and to supervisory authorities and might deprive consumers from offers beneficial to them. Even though we would have preferred a more ambitious approach in this regard, we can support the text, which allows applying proportionate regime and some targeted exclusions of this type of credits.

Therefore, we would urge to preserve the delicate balance we have achieved and to consider the above mentioned arguments in the course of the upcoming negotiations with the European Parliament."

Ad "B" item 7: **Conclusions on European missions**
Approval

Ad "B" item 9: **Conclusions on research assessment and implementation of open science**
Approval

STATEMENT BY POLAND

“Equality between women and men is enshrined in the treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Polish national legal system in accordance with international human rights treaties and within the framework of the fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, in expressions containing the term ‘gender’ Poland will interpret it in terms of equality between women and men, in accordance with Article 8 TFEU.”

Ad "B" item 8: **Conclusions on principles and values for international cooperation in research and innovation**
Approval

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL on Russian military aggression against Ukraine and its impact on R&I

“The Council stresses that Russian military aggression against Ukraine grossly violates international law and is causing massive loss of life and injury to civilians. Russia is directing attacks against the civilian population and is targeting civilian objects, including scientific institutions, such as universities, research institutes and libraries. The war has jeopardized the research and innovation (R&I) landscape of Ukraine and compromised sound scientific relations with the R&I communities of both countries.

The Council recalls that the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as promoting peaceful relations among nations forms the foundation of international cooperation in the field of R&I and that the violation of these principles and values poses a serious threat to individual researchers.

The Council welcomes the quick reaction of the Commission and Member States to launch the portal [ERA4Ukraine](#) under the Euraxess network as a one-stop shop for information on support to researchers of Ukraine by the EU, its Member States and Associated Countries. The Council acknowledges that ERA4Ukraine is just one of the many on-going initiatives of the Commission, Member States, various organisations as well as individual members of the EU R&I community to support Ukrainian researchers and students and calls for further actions towards Ukraine.

The Council welcomes the decision to suspend existing and new cooperation with public entities in Russia and Belarus initiated by the Commission within the European Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation and other relevant EU programmes, as well as measures taken at Member States' level. The Council invites the Commission to regularly provide it with information in this context.

The Council stresses therefore the need to further implement coordinated mechanisms, taking into account existing national measures, in order to support researchers and students who are forced to flee or are under threat due to Russia's military aggression. Moreover, the Council highlights the necessity to put in place appropriate support to allow Ukraine to maintain and regain its higher education and scientific capacities.

The Council highlights in that context the relevance of science diplomacy as an important tool for the pursuit of values and principles of international cooperation as well as for linking up R&I policies and overarching policy goals.”

STATEMENT BY POLAND

“Equality between women and men is enshrined in the treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Polish national legal system in accordance with international human rights treaties and within the framework of the fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, in expressions containing the term ‘gender’ Poland will interpret it in terms of equality between women and men, in accordance with Article 8 TFEU.”