



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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INST
POLGEN
PROCED

COMMUNICATION

WRITTEN PROCEDURE

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Subject:	END OF WRITTEN PROCEDURE Council Decision on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union

Delegations are informed that the written procedure, opened by CM 1900/20 of 20 March 2020, was completed on 23 March 2020 and that all delegations:

- agreed to adopt the Council Decision on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union, as set out in doc. 6891/20 + COR 1.

Therefore, the Council Decision on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union, as set out in doc. 6891/20 + COR 1, is adopted.

The statement by Hungary and Poland is reproduced in the Annex to this CM. It will be included in the summary of acts adopted by the written procedure as the statement to be entered in the Council minutes, in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Rules of procedure of the Council.

Statement by Hungary and Poland

**with regard to the adoption of the Council Decision on a temporary derogation from
the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by
the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union**

While recognising the political importance of the decision to ensure institutional continuity in the decision-making of the Council, the signing Member States wish to emphasize that derogation from the first subparagraph of Article 12 (1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure may only be granted because of the exceptional circumstances caused by the epidemiological crisis and for a limited period of time.

This decision shall in no way be regarded as an amendment to the Council's Rules of Procedure or a precedent invoked for any future procedural decision within the Council.

The Council shall return to its normal decision making practice as soon as the circumstances allow that.
