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#### 'I' ITEM NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

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Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on certain aspects of railway safety and connectivity with regard to the cross-border infrastructure linking the Union and the United Kingdom through the Channel Fixed Link (**first reading**)

- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the legislative act
- Decision to derogate from the 8-week period provided for in Article 4 of Protocol 1 on the role of national parliaments in the EU

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1. On 27 November 2020 the Commission sent its proposal<sup>1</sup>, based on Article 91(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 2 December 2020<sup>2</sup>.
3. The Committee of the Regions was consulted and decided not to issue an opinion.
4. The European Parliament will adopt its position at first reading on the Commission proposal at its plenary on 14-17 December 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 13443/20.

<sup>2</sup> Not yet published in the OJ.

5. Due to the special circumstances, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision (EU) 2020/1659<sup>3</sup>, that the Council uses the written procedure for:
- for the adoption of the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on certain aspects of railway safety and connectivity with regard to the cross-border infrastructure linking the Union and the United Kingdom through the Channel Fixed Link, as set out in document PE- CONS 60/20<sup>4</sup>; and
  - to derogate, on the basis of the second subparagraph of Article 3(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, from the eight-week period referred to in the first subparagraph of that Article.

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<sup>3</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2020/1659 of 6 November 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and (EU) 2020/1253, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 376, 10.11.2020, p. 3–4)

<sup>4</sup> PE-CONS 60/20 will be available in due time.