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**2018/0194(COD)**

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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 establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting for the period 2021-2027 (the 'Pericles IV' programme), and repealing Regulation (EU) No 331/2014 **(first reading)**  
- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons

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1. On 31 May 2018 the Commission sent its proposal<sup>1</sup>, based on Article 133 of the TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 19 September 2018<sup>2</sup>.
3. The European Central Bank delivered its opinion on 16 August 2018<sup>3</sup>.
4. The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on 13 February 2019<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> 9589/18

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 440, 6.12.2018, p. 199

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 378, 19.10.2018, p. 2

<sup>4</sup> 6213/19

5. On 31 March 2021, the Permanent Representatives Committee confirmed the final compromise text on the above draft Regulation<sup>5</sup>.
6. 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) 2021/454<sup>6</sup>, that the Council uses the written procedure for the adoption of its position at first reading on the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting for the period 2021-2027 (the 'Pericles IV' programme), and repealing Regulation (EU) No 331/2014, as set out in document 6164/21, and the Statement of reasons, as set out in document 6164/21 ADD 1.

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<sup>5</sup> In accordance with the letter of 4 February 2021, sent by the Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs to the Chair of COREPER, the European Parliament should, at second reading, approve the Council's position at first reading without amendment.

<sup>6</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2021/454 of 12 March 2021, 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, (EU) 2020/1253, (EU) 2020/1659 and (EU) 2021/26, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 89, 16.3.2021, p. 15–16).