



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 5 December 2019  
(OR. en)

14336/19  
PV CONS 62

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(General Affairs)  
19 November 2019

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## 1. **Adoption of the agenda**

The Council adopted the agenda set out in 13939/19.

## 2. **Approval of "A" items**

### a) **Non-legislative list**

13941/19

The Council adopted the "A" items listed in 13941/19 including COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

### b) **Legislative list** (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

13942/19

## Internal Market and Industry

1. Regulation on European business statistics (FRIBS)  
*Adoption of the legislative act*  
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 13.11.2019



13695/1/19 REV 1  
13695/19 ADD 1  
PE-CONS 81/19  
STATIS

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted, with the Czech Republic, Hungary and the United Kingdom abstaining, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 338(1) TFEU). Statements related to this item are set out in the Annex.

## Justice and Home Affairs

2. Union Civil Protection Mechanism Decision  
*Partial general approach*  
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 13.11.2019



13792/19  
PROCIV

The Council reached a general approach and agreed on the compromise text as set out in the Annex of 13792/19.

### Legislative deliberations

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

3. **Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027** [S][C]  
*Information from the Presidency*

The Council took note of the state of play of negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027.

### Non-legislative activities

4. Preparation of the European Council on 12-13 December 2019: 13778/19  
Annotated Draft Agenda  
*Exchange of views*

5. **Enhancing respect for the Rule of Law in the Union** [2]  
a) **Exchange of views with the Director of the  
Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)**

In public session, the Council held an exchange of views with the Director of the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA).

b) Conclusions on the evaluation of the Rule of Law dialogue 14116/19  
*Adoption*

6. Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association process  
*State of play*

7. Any other business

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

Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in 13942/19

**Ad "A" item 1:**      **Regulation on European business statistics (FRIBS)**  
*Adoption of the legislative act*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

"The Czech Republic supports the general principles of the FRIBS and welcomes a number of aspects of the compromise text. However, it is negatively affected by the speed of negotiation process.

The Czech Republic remains convinced that the proposed wording of Article 7(6) is vague and ambiguous. It creates room for increasing administrative burden. We consider setting an exact definition of ceiling for the total number of variables as extremely important and it should be stated clearly in the text.

The Czech Republic is of a strong opinion that a general topic "Environment and Climate" introduced as a pilot study by Article 20 exceeds the scope of the Regulation and belongs to a specific sectoral legislation.

Due to these reasons we cannot wholly embrace and support the compromise text and we will abstain from the vote."

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