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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe - <i>Approval</i> - <i>Statement by Hungary</i>

Statement by Hungary on the conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe

Hungary believes that the Presidency's approach towards gender equality is based on a delicately balanced compromise therefore we support the current approach of the *Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe*.

Hungary is supporting a comprehensive approach to youth related policies and considers it important to address the challenges faced by young people requires their comprehensive inclusion and participation, particularly in decision-making processes. We deem it essential to support young people and empower them with a vision for a safe and inclusive future.

Hungary recognises and promotes equality between men and women in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary and the primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from international law. Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental value. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the term ‘gender’ as a reference to ‘sex’ in the *Conclusions of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe*.

Hungary declares that the Commission's Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (COM (2020) 152 final) mentioned in the Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe should be interpreted with due regard to national competences and the specific circumstances in each Member State.

Furthermore, Hungary declares that the Commission's LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (COM (2020) 698 final) referred to in the Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe should be interpreted with due regard to the national competences and the specific circumstances in each Member State.

Hungary does not oppose to the adoption of the Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe in the spirit of compromise and solidarity. However, Hungary considers the text on Ukraine in paragraph 16. as a language agreed upon in a previous context and believes that it does not reflect the new geopolitical circumstances. Hungary believes that with the start of the peace negotiations, led by the United States, the conflict has entered a new phase to which the EU needs to adapt its policy-making. In light of the above and bearing in mind the new geopolitical realities, Hungary will not consider the Ukraine-related paragraph 16. as an agreed Union policy, which thus is not to be replicated as agreed language in future EU documents.