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ECOFIN 807
UEM 305
SOC 438
EMPL 302
COMPET 571
ENV 551
EDUC 272
ENER 277
JAI 862
GENDER 131
JEUN 162
SAN 362

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	COUNCIL EXPLANATORY NOTE Accompanying document to Council Recommendations to Member States under the European Semester 2025

Delegations will find attached a draft Explanatory note accompanying Council Recommendations to Member States under the European Semester 2025, as prepared in the Social Protection Committee.

Explanatory note

Accompanying document to Council Recommendations to Member States under the European Semester

Article 29 of Regulation 2024/1263 on the effective coordination of economic policies and on multilateral budgetary surveillance and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 states that "*The Council is expected to, as a rule, follow the recommendations and proposals of the Commission or publicly explain its position*".

In respect of this "comply or explain rule" the Council hereby presents the following explanations to changes agreed to Commission Recommendations for Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs) on Member States in the context of the 2025 European Semester on which the Commission is in disagreement.

The Council (EPSCO) has also agreed to a number of additions as well as factual or technical changes to recommendations with the full support of the Commission.

Extract from country-specific recommendation 5 for Luxembourg

Commission text:

Improve the resilience of the health system by ensuring appropriate availability of health workers. Accelerate reforms to improve the governance of the health system and e-health.

Agreed text:

Improve the resilience of the health system by **accelerating the reforms and** ensuring appropriate availability of health workers. [...]

Explanation:

The text of the recommendation was amended at Committee level to better reflect the division of competences between the Union and the Member States concerning the organisation of national health systems, including their governance. The Committee sought a compromise text to ensure compliance with Articles 121 and 148 TFEU, while fully respecting Member States' responsibility for defining their health policy and organising and delivering health services and medical care.

Extract from Recital 35 for Luxembourg

Commission text:

More efficient use of limited resources and better governance is a precondition to strengthen the resilience of the health system.

Agreed text:

More efficient use of limited resources **and accelerating the reforms are [...]** preconditionss to strengthen the resilience of the health system.

Explanation:

The text of recital 35 was amended at Committee level to reflect the wording agreed in country-specific recommendation 5.
