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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
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Subject:	Legislative programming - Exchange of views

1. The 2016 Inter-institutional Agreement on Better Law-Making¹ (IIA-BLM) was set out to reinforce the EU's annual and multiannual programming with a view to improving law-making and focusing EU action and initiatives on the main policy priorities with European added value. In accordance, the Council approved its practical arrangements on annual programming².
2. Since then, the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission have engaged together in annual programming cycles to determine the political and legislative priorities each year.

¹ OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1.
² 6879/16.

3. On 16 September 2026, the Commission issued its Letter of intent³, outlining the main elements guiding the preparation of the forthcoming Commission Work Programme 2027. The letter emphasises the need for Europe to act together to strengthen its independence. To this end, the *Letter of intent* identifies 21 key priorities and new initiatives for 2027 structured around five strategic axes.
4. On 22 September 2026, and after the presentation of the Commission of its *Letter of intent*, the Council (General Affairs) will hold an exchange of views on Legislative programming.
5. The Committee of Permanent Representatives prepared this exchange of views at its meeting on 16 September 2026.
6. The Presidency will summarise this exchange of views in Council in a letter to the President of the Commission as input for the forthcoming Commission Work Programme 2027.
7. The Commission Work Programme 2027, expected to be published on 20 October 2026, will be presented to the Council (General Affairs) on 19 November 2026.
8. The three Institutions will then work towards preparing the Joint Declaration on the EU legislative priorities for 2027. The planned calendar foresees that the Declaration will be presented to Council (General Affairs) for approval on 15 December 2026 in order to proceed with the signature by the three Presidents on the margins of the European Council meeting on 17 December 2026.
9. In parallel to the legislative programming annual process, the three Institutions agreed on a structured cycle to monitor the implementation of the Joint Declaration on the EU legislative priorities for 2026 and the ‘One Europe, One Market’ Roadmap. The next Progress Reviews will be presented to the Council (General Affairs) on 13 October 2026 and on 15 December 2026. These Progress Reviews will then be presented at the European Council meetings on 15-16 October 2026 and 17-18 December 2026.

³ 12894/26.