



Council of the European Union

**PRESS**  
**EN**

**BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>**  
Brussels, 11 September 2015

## **GENERAL AFFAIRS Council**

### **14 September 2015 in Brussels**

Starting at 9.30, the Council will discuss the **work programme** proposed by the **Luxembourg presidency** for the duration of its term of office ending on 31 December 2015.

It will prepare for the **European Council on 15-16 October 2015** by discussing an annotated draft agenda.

Ministers will exchange views on a **Commission** letter of intent on its **work programme for 2016**.

Press conference: at the end of the meeting (+/-13.00).

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*Press conferences and public events by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu>*

*Video coverage in broadcast quality (MPEG4) and photo gallery on: [www.eucouncil.tv](http://www.eucouncil.tv)*

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<sup>1</sup> This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the Press Office.

## **Presidency programme**

The Luxembourg presidency will present, in public session, its [work programme](#) for the duration of its term of office (July to December 2015). The Council will hold an exchange of views.

## **Preparation for the October European Council**

The Council will examine an [annotated draft agenda](#), drawn up by the President of the European Council in cooperation with the presidency and the Commission, for the European Council meeting to be held on 15 and 16 October 2015.

The European Council will focus on:

- migration; it will also take stock of the preparations for the Valletta summit and follow-up to the high-level conference on the Western Balkans route
- other items: the European Council will take stock of the discussion on the report on the Economic and Monetary Union and be briefed by the President of the European Council on the technical analysis of the UK demands in view of a referendum; it may also address specific foreign policy issues in the light of events

The annotated draft agenda will serve as the basis for draft conclusions, to be prepared in the run-up to the meeting.

## **Commission work programme for 2016**

The Council will exchange views on a [Commission letter](#) outlining its intentions for the Commission work programme for 2016. The discussion will allow the Commission to listen to the ministers' comments before it adopts its work programme on 27 October.

The presidency will inform ministers on the state of play of the negotiations on an agreement between the Commission, the European Parliament and the Council on better regulation. The draft agreement proposed by the Commission is aimed at changing working methods to obtain better results.

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