



Draft
GENERAL AFFAIRS Council
21 April 2015 in Luxembourg

Starting at 10.30, the Council will discuss its priorities in the future **interinstitutional agreement on better law making**.

The Council is expected to adopt conclusions on the **former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**.

Under any other business ministers will mark the **10th anniversary** of the signing of the **accession treaty with Bulgaria and Romania**.

Over lunch ministers will discuss with Commission First Vice-President Timmermans the implementation of the statement made by the heads of state and government in February 2015 on the **fight against terrorism**.

Without discussion, the Council is expected to notably

- approve the increase of pre-financing for the **youth employment initiative**
- adopt a revised **multiannual financial framework for 2014-2020**
- conclude a **stabilisation and association agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- appoint a **new Secretary-General of the Council**

Press conference: at the end of the meeting (+/-14.00).

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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

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¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the Press Office.

Better law making

Ministers will discuss the Council's priorities in the future interinstitutional agreement on better law making. Following the discussion the presidency intends to outline the Council's priorities in a letter to Commission First Vice-President Timmermans. The Commission's proposal for a new interinstitutional agreement is expected on 19 May.

The current interinstitutional agreement on better law making dates from December 2003. It establishes general principles for cooperation between the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission, in particular during the legislative process. Its purpose is to improve the drafting and implementation of EU law.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Reaffirming continued EU engagement, the Council will adopt conclusions on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in response to the ongoing political crisis. The Council will urge political leaders to rapidly address concerns and will revert to the issue in the next months.

Any other business

EU accession of Bulgaria and Romania

The Council will mark the 10th anniversary of the signing of the accession treaty with Bulgaria and Romania.

Fight against terrorism

Over lunch, ministers will discuss the state of play of the implementation of the statement on the fight against terrorism made by the heads of state or government in February 2015. The discussion is expected to focus on radicalisation and safeguarding fundamental values. The objective is to take stock of progress made and share best practices and information on initiatives.
