



Council of the
European Union

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ADD 1

PV/CONS 25
EDUC 155
JEUN 41
CULT 33
AUDIO 15
SPORT 17

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject: **3388th** meeting of the Council of the European Union
(EDUCATION, YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT)
held in Brussels on 18 and 19 May 2015

PUBLIC DELIBERATION ITEMS¹

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NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES

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¹ Deliberations on Union legislative acts (Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union), other deliberations open to the public and public debates (Article 8 of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES

(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

EDUCATION

3. "ET2020" mid-term stocktaking and preparation of the 2015 Joint Report

- Policy debate
(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
8039/15 EDUC 104 JEUN 28 SOC 240 EMPL 143 RECH 96 MI 235
COMPET 151
+ COR 1 (cs)

On the basis of the question paper prepared by the Presidency (see doc. 8039/15), the Council held a policy debate on the above topic, in which Ministers broadly reconfirmed the current objectives of the "ET2020" strategic framework, but called for more streamlined governance, working methods and reporting, fewer and more operational priorities, an extension of the work cycle to 5 years, closer collaboration with the employment sector and better dissemination of the results of European cooperation.

There were also calls for greater emphasis on inclusive education, citizenship and the acquisition of common European values. The Commission indicated that it would take into account the results of the debate in its forthcoming "ET2020" draft Joint Report.

7. Empowering young people for political participation in the democratic life in Europe

- Policy debate
(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
8095/15 JEUN 31 EDUC 107 SOC 243

The Council held a policy debate on the above topic on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the Presidency (doc. 8095/15).

Ministers stressed that whilst young people are interested in political participation, they are increasingly participating in new and less conventional ways such as social media and internet campaigns. To enhance the engagement of young people, Ministers highlighted, inter alia, the need to strengthen civic and political education and increase support from families and school in order to combat extremism and radicalisation, make better use of new technologies in electoral processes, develop specific projects dedicated to creating more dialogue with and between young people, and continue to exchange best practices at the EU level.

9. Future European Audiovisual Policy in the Framework of the Digital Single Market Strategy

(a) A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe

- Presentation by the Commission
(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

8672/15 COMPET 185 TELECOM 109 AUDIO 11 DIGIT 32 RECH 107 MI 291
PI 32 IND 72 ECOFIN 308 ENER 139 DATAPROTECT 70
CYBER 31 JUSTCIV 101 EJUSTICE 56 CULT 29 EDUC 122

(b) The functioning of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive in the context of the current geopolitical situation

- Policy debate
(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

8351/15 AUDIO 9 DIGIT 23 COEST 127 CONSOM 69 JAI 256

The Commission presented its communication on a Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe, adopted on 6 May (doc. 8672/15). It stressed that Europe needs a comprehensive digital strategy in order to remain competitive at the global level. The strategy is focused not only on technology, but also on society, culture and creativity.

The Council held a policy debate on the above topic on the basis of the discussion paper prepared by the Presidency (doc. 8351/15).

Ministers highlighted that the digital single market should promote Europe's cultural and linguistic diversity. They supported the Commission's views on facilitating cross-border portability of content, while maintaining the existing territoriality principle, as well as on the need to continue the fight against illegal content, and to find the right balance on copyright.

Regarding the Audiovisual Media Services directive, most Ministers were generally in favour of maintaining the country of origin principle as a cornerstone of European audiovisual policy. They underlined that the freedoms guaranteed by the Audiovisual Media Services directive must not be misused to disseminate hate speech, propaganda or disinformation, and they acknowledged that some additional exceptions could therefore be envisaged, for instance when fundamental values, freedoms and democracy are under serious threat.

In the light of current geopolitical developments as well as of the digital shift, Ministers considered that the directive needed to be updated and that the revised Directive should be based, inter alia, on guaranteeing media freedom and pluralism, promoting cultural diversity, and ensuring a high level of protection of minors.

The Commission indicated that its REFIT exercise on the Audiovisual Media Service directive should be completed by the end of 2015 allowing it to adopt a legislative proposal to amend the directive in spring 2016.

13. Physical activity as an essential element of quality education at all levels – cooperation models with the sport sector

– Policy debate

(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

8096/15 SPORT 14 EDUC 108 JEUN 32

+ COR 1 (cs)

The Council held a policy debate on the above topic on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the Presidency (doc. 8096/15).

Ministers highlighted that the promotion of physical activity is a priority in the field of sport, and has been regularly addressed, in particular through the Council Recommendation on health-enhancing physical activity, a specific chapter for sport under the Erasmus+ programme and the upcoming European Week of Sport in September 2015.

Ministers also noted that there are clear incentives on both sides: physical activity in schools improves educational achievement; cooperation of sport clubs with schools boosts the number of children practising sports in schools. There are also challenges, not least the increasing competition for young people's free time from video games, social media and the digital world.

The debate highlighted that flexibility and the accessibility of sporting activities is key. This requires partnership and cooperation between the education and sports sectors. Public authorities, in particular at local level, must play a key coordinating role.