

New EU rules will improve security of electricity supply in crisis situations

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A new framework of rules on how to prevent, prepare for and manage electricity crisis situations will lead to better risk preparedness and strengthen the energy security pillar of the Energy Union. EU ambassadors today endorsed an agreement reached with the European Parliament on 22 November on a regulation setting out these new rules.

Today we have taken another important step towards completing the Energy Union. This new Regulation makes it easier for member states to assist each other in the event of an electricity crisis. We will be better prepared and there will be fewer electricity cuts at peak times. I am confident that this agreement will pave the way for a rapid and successful outcome to the negotiations on the other files in the Electricity Market Design package.

Elisabeth Köstinger, Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism and President of the Council

Europe's electricity system is increasingly interconnected. As a result, the consequences of electricity crises sparked for example by extreme weather conditions, malicious attacks or a fuel shortage can easily extend beyond national borders.

Under this regulation, a **common methodology** to identify risks will be developed. The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity, ENTSO-E, will draw up **regional crisis scenarios** and identify the most relevant risks for each region. On the basis of both these regional and national electricity crisis scenarios, each member state will be required to draw up a **risk-preparedness plan**, including both national and regional measures. Close coordination between Member States and all those involved, as well as the provision of a template for the risk-preparedness plans, will ensure that the preparedness of Member States is harmonised as far as possible. At the same time there will be sufficient flexibility to enable Member States to take into account their own specific circumstances.

The Council has ensured that sufficient time will be allocated for the development of risk-preparedness plans so that all Member States can be ready with plans of high quality. Furthermore, the Council has ensured that a clearly-defined **assistance mechanism between Member States** will be introduced, so that that cross-border assistance can be provided rapidly in the event of an electricity crisis.

The provisions of the regulation concerning regional cooperation shall not apply to Cyprus, for as long as it is not directly interconnected with any other member state.

Background and next steps

The Commission proposal for the Regulation on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector was published on 30 November 2016 as part of the Clean Energy package. The Council adopted its position on 4 December 2017. Negotiations with the European Parliament started in autumn and were successfully concluded on 22 November 2018.

The file will now be passed to the European Parliament for approval in the plenary before final adoption by the Council, most likely in spring 2019. The regulation will enter into force 20 days after its publication in the Official Journal.

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EUROJUST BREAKING NEWS

5 December 2018



*Today, supported by a coordination centre at Eurojust, judicial and law enforcement authorities from **the Netherlands, Italy, Germany and Belgium** are currently executing arrests and seizures against a 'Ndrangheta criminal group involved in cocaine trafficking, money laundering, bribery and violence. Today's action, code named 'Pollino', is the result of an intensive joint investigation that started in 2016 and has been coordinated at European level.*

Press conference at Eurojust at 12:00 CET today, Wednesday 5 December 2018, following conclusion of the actions.

Key representatives from the four involved Member States, Eurojust and Europol will be represented. The press conference will be livestreamed*.

Eurojust is the EU's Judicial Cooperation Unit, located in The Hague.

*The link and code for the webcast:

<https://streams.nfgd.nl/eurojust-press-conference>, code: EUROJUST. For use with mobile devices (Android and IOS), you can download the Connect2U app, also using the code EUROJUST).

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Indicative programme – Justice and Home Affairs Council, 6-7 December 2018

Roaming charges ended in the European Union on 15 June 2017. Europeans travelling within EU countries will 'Roam Like at Home' and pay domestic prices for roaming calls, SMS and data. ...

On 23 June 2016 citizens of the United Kingdom (UK) voted to leave the European Union (EU). On 29 March 2017 the UK formally notified the European Council of its intention to leave the EU by...

Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest common asylum standards in the world. And in the past two years, European migration policy has advanced in leaps and...

'Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity.' Robert Schuman 9 May 1950 On 25 March 2017,...

In response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and deliberate destabilisation of a neighbouring sovereign country, the EU has imposed restrictive measures against the Russian Federation. ...

Enlargement is the process whereby countries join the EU. Since it was founded in 1957, the EU has grown from 6 member countries to 28. Any European country that respects the principles of liberty,...

Indicative programme – Justice and Home Affairs Council, 6-7 December 2018

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Place:

Europa building, Brussels

Chair(s):

Herbert Kickl, Federal Minister of the Interior of Austria

Josef Moser, Federal Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice of Austria

All times are approximate and subject to change

HOME AFFAIRS – THURSDAY, 6 DECEMBER

+/- 08.00

Arrivals – Home affairs ([live streaming](#))

+/- 09.00

Doorstep by Minister Kickl

+/- 09.30

Meeting of Mixed committee (roundtable)

Adoption of the agenda

- Regulation amending the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation
- Return Directive
- Any other business
 - Current legislative proposals

+/- 11.10

Meeting of Home affairs ministers

Adoption of the agenda

Approval of non-legislative A items

Approval of legislative A items ([public session](#))

+/- 11.30

Regulation amending the European Border and Coast Guard ([public session](#))

+/- 11.35

Return Directive ([public session](#))

+/- 11.40

Regulation on preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online ([public session](#))

+/- 12.40

Reform of the Common European Asylum System and Resettlement ([public session](#))

+/- 12.55

Any other business

Current legislative proposals ([public session](#))

+/- 13.15

Working lunch on comprehensive approach on migration

+/- 15.00

Meeting of Home affairs ministers (resumes)

- Fight against people smuggling networks
- JHA priorities for the next MFF
- Any other business

+/- 18.00

Press conference ([live streaming](#))

JUSTICE – FRIDAY, 7 DECEMBER

+/- 08.30

Arrivals

+/- 08.45

Doorstep by Minister Moser

+/- 09.30

Meeting of Justice ministers (roundtable)

Contract Law – Directive on Contracts for the sales of goods (DSG) ([public session](#))

+/- 10.30

Brussels IIa Regulation: recast ([public session](#))

+/- 11.30

Regulation on the assignments of claims ([public session](#))

+/- 12.00

Regulation on European Production and Preservation Orders for e-evidence ([public session](#))

+/- 13.00

Any other business

Current legislative proposals ([public session](#))

+/- 13.15

Working lunch on fight against antisemitism

+/- 15.15

Meeting of Justice ministers (resumes)

– Negotiating mandate for the 2nd Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention

– Negotiating mandate for an EU/US agreement facilitating the access to e-evidence

– EPP0 Regulation: Implementation

– Data Retention: Retention of electronic communication data

– Mutual recognition in criminal matters – Council Conclusions

– EU Accession to ECHR

– Any other business

+/- 18.15

Press conference ([live streaming](#))

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