

# Main topics and media events 25 November – 9 December 2018

Overview of the main subjects to be discussed at meetings of the Council of the EU over the next two weeks.

## **Special meeting of the European Council (Article 50), Sunday 25 November 2018**

EU27 leaders will meet to endorse the Brexit withdrawal agreement and approve the political declaration on future.

## **Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council, Monday 26 November 2018**

Ministers are expected to reach a partial general approach on a proposal for a Regulation on the European Solidarity Corps 2021-2027 and on a Regulation on the Erasmus programme. On Tuesday 27, ministers will focus on the Creative Europe programme, and on how to tackle the spread of disinformation online. They will also hold a debate on major sporting events as drivers for innovation in the presence of a guest speaker, Martin Kallen, CEO of UEFA events.

## **Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council, Tuesday 27 November 2018**

Ministers will focus on the Creative Europe programme, and on how to tackle the spread of disinformation online. They will also hold a debate on major sporting events as drivers for innovation in the presence of a guest speaker, Martin Kallen, CEO of UEFA events.

## **Foreign Affairs Council (Development), Monday 26 November 2018**

Development ministers will discuss the Africa-Europe alliance for sustainable investment and jobs, the future financial architecture for sustainable development and neighbourhood, and gender and human rights issues.

## **Competitiveness Council, Thursday 29 November 2018**

The Competitiveness Council is expected to agree on general approaches on the draft regulations on platforms to business, the single market programme (partial general approach) and the general safety of vehicles. It will also adopt conclusions on the future EU industrial policy strategy and will exchange views on the future of the single market.

## **Competitiveness Council, Friday 30 November 2018**

The Council will take stock of progress so far on the proposed EU space programme. It will be invited to adopt a partial general approach on the Horizon Europe (framework programme) and take stock of progress on the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe. The Council will also adopt conclusions on the European Research Area.

### **General Affairs Council on cohesion, Friday 30 November 2018**

The Council will hold a policy debate on the legislative package for cohesion policy after 2020.

### **Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Transport), Monday 3 December 2018**

The Council will aim for a general approach on a number of proposals including key rules for the road transport sector, and for a partial general approach on the proposal on the Connected Europe Facility (CEF). The proposals to stop seasonal time changes and update rail passenger rights will be the topic of a progress report.

### **Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Telecommunication), Tuesday 4 December 2018**

The Council will aim to agree on a partial general approach on the proposed Digital Europe programme. It will assess progress and exchange views on a draft regulation on ePrivacy. It will also take stock of progress on a proposal to establish a European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and a Network of National Coordination Centres.

### **Economic and Financial Affairs Council, Tuesday 4 December 2018**

The Council will discuss the digital services tax, take stock of progress on completing the banking union and adopt an action plan on tackling anti-money laundering.

### **Justice and Home Affairs Council (Home), Thursday 6 December 2018**

Home Affairs ministers are expected to discuss the European Border and Coast Guard, the prevention of dissemination of terrorist content online and the Justice and Home Affairs priorities for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

### **Justice and Home Affairs Council (Justice), Friday 7 December 2018**

Justice ministers are expected to reach agreement on a number of files, including the e-evidence regulation, the sales of goods directive and the so-called Brussels IIa regulation on parental responsibility in cross border cases.

### **Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council, Thursday 6 December 2018**

Ministers will aim at reaching a general approach on a proposal for a regulation establishing a European Labour Authority and a proposal for a Directive on carcinogens or mutagens at work (third batch) with the aim of reaching a general approach on both proposals. They will also hold a policy debate on the European semester 2019.

### **Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council, Friday 7**

## December 2018

Ministers will focus on ways to strengthen the cooperation against vaccine preventable diseases and will hold an exchange of views on tackling vaccine hesitancy at national and EU level.

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