

[Thirteenth meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Ministerial level](#)



EU-Montenegro Intergovernmental Accession Conference Highlights

The thirteenth meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Ministerial level was held today in Luxembourg. The meeting marks a milestone in the evolution of the accession negotiations, since it is the first to have taken place since the Council approved the revised enlargement methodology, which also applies to the accession process of Montenegro.

The European Union delegation was led by Ms Ana Paula Zacarias, Secretary of State for European Affairs, on behalf of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The Montenegrin delegation was led by the Prime Minister of Montenegro, Mr Zdravko Krivokapić.

The revised enlargement methodology aims to reinvigorate the accession process. It includes: a stronger focus on fundamental reforms; a stronger political steer; increased dynamism; and a more predictable process, based on objective criteria and rigorous positive and negative conditionality.

Providing the accession process with a stronger political steer from the Intergovernmental Conferences is one of the key elements of the revised enlargement methodology. The meeting therefore served to strengthen the dialogue between the Member States and Montenegro, with the aim of helping to focus efforts on key reforms that should allow for progress in the accession process.

The EU welcomed Montenegro's efforts in this regard and noted that the advancement of the negotiations will continue to be guided by Montenegro's progress in preparing for accession, as established in the Negotiation Framework.

[Visit the meeting page](#)

[Joint EU-US statement following the EU-US Justice and Home Affairs](#)

Ministerial Meeting



We use cookies in order to ensure that you can get the best browsing experience possible on the Council website. Certain cookies are used to obtain aggregated statistics about website visits to help us constantly improve the site and better serve your needs. Other cookies are used to boost performance and guarantee security of the website.

With your permission, we will use AT internet cookies to produce aggregated, anonymous data about our visitors' browsing and behaviour on our website. We will use this data to improve your experience on our website.

To get more information about these cookies, how and why we use them and how you can change your settings, check our [cookies policy page](#).

Read more [I accept cookies](#) [I refuse cookies](#)

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Council approves conclusions reaffirming strong EU commitment



The Council today approved conclusions reaffirming the EU's strong commitment towards the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and its **Sustainable development Goals (SDGs)**, which continue to guide the EU internally and externally **to build back better and greener**.

The Council recognises that the **COVID-19** pandemic is threatening progress towards the SDGs and therefore calls for **enhanced dialogue** and **concrete operational actions** to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

The Council calls on the Commission to propose such actions in conjunction with the delivery of the Commission President's headline ambitions "A European Green Deal". The Commission is also invited to engage in regular dialogue with the Council to further promote an integrated, strategic, ambitious and comprehensive approach to SDG implementation. This dialogue should take stock of progress made in the implementation of the SDGs at EU level in an integrated and coherent way and address strategic orientations.

The conclusions call on the Commission and EU member states to carry out **communications and awareness-raising campaigns** on the 2030 Agenda with a view to **increasing shared ownership** by the citizens, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders.

The Council remains **committed** towards **reviewing progress** towards achieving the 2030 Agenda and will step up efforts to **mainstream the SDGs in its work** across policy sectors.

[Visit the meeting page](#)

Launch of EpiPulse, a new portal to strengthen the prevention and control of infectious diseases

EpiPulse integrates several surveillance systems that were previously independent, provides new functionalities and a seamless access to data in one single platform. The portal facilitates the collection, analysis and dissemination of indicator- and event-based surveillance data on infectious diseases and associated health issues, including global epidemic intelligence, whole-genome sequencing, and health determinants.

Appointed experts from the EU/EEA and non-EU countries within ECDC's cooperation framework, ECDC staff, and representatives of European authorities and international organisations can access the portal to report and analyse cases of infectious diseases and pathogens that may threaten public health in the EU/EEA. The platform facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration and connects users from different sectors under a One-Health approach.

Through this platform, ECDC aims to strengthen the prevention and control of infectious diseases by enhancing early threat detection and assessment. It will enable better preparedness and management of threats from infectious diseases at the EU and global level, through real-time monitoring of outbreak signals and events.

Webinar: Best practices on increasing

COVID-19 vaccination uptake in vulnerable populations

[See the agenda](#)

JOIN BY COMPUTER/TABLET/SMART PHONE:

To join the meeting on computer/tablet/smart phone, please follow this link:
[Join](#)

1. Fill in your full name and if possible, organisation
2. If asked, fill in the meeting password: ECDC

JOIN BY PHONE (Audio only):

To join the meeting using phone, dial this number 0046 85 199 2509 (Sweden Toll)

Or find **your local toll number** from this link: [Available call-in numbers](#)

Wait for 5 seconds or until instructed.

Then dial the meeting number: 182 649 0744 ##

JOIN BY VIDEO CONFERENCE SYSTEM:

If you join by video conference system dial 1826490744@ecdc3.webex.com

Dial the password for the meeting: 3232#