



GENERAL AFFAIRS Council

Tuesday 7 February in Brussels

Starting at 10.00, the Council will prepare for the **European Council on 9-10 March 2017** by discussing an annotated draft agenda. Ministers will also take note of the implementation of the **December European Council** conclusions.

The Council will also hear a presentation by the Commission of its communication on next steps for a **sustainable European future**.

Without discussion the Council will

- confirm the political agreement on a directive aimed at protecting the EU's financial interest
- agree its negotiating position on a regulation establishing the European public prosecutor's office

A presidency press conference will be held at the end of the meeting (+/- 12.00).

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Press conferences and public events by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu/en/webcasts>
Video coverage in broadcast quality (MPEG4) and photo gallery on:
<https://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/event/general-affairs-council-february-2017-16190>

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

Preparation for the March European Council

The Council will examine an annotated draft agenda for the European Council meeting to be held on 9 and 10 March 2017.

The European Council will focus on:

- jobs, growth and competitiveness: the European Council will stress the urgency of promoting investment, growth and employment to allow EU citizens to enjoy economic well-being and prosperity; it will examine the implementation of structural reforms by member states; it will also take stock of the work undertaken on legislative priorities such as the single market strategy, the digital single market strategy, the capital markets union action plan and the energy union
- security: the European Council will assess the implementation of its December 2016 conclusions on external security and defence; it will also look at where the EU stands in terms of internal security
- external relations: the European Council will address this item in the light of the most recent developments

The annotated draft agenda will serve as the basis for draft conclusions, to be prepared in the run-up to the meeting.

Follow-up to the December European Council

The presidency will inform ministers about the implementation of the December European Council conclusions. It will brief ministers on progress and on the state of play of the main files referred to in the conclusions.

Sustainable European future

The Commission will present its [communication on next steps for a sustainable European future](#). The communication sets out how the EU could contribute to implement the [2030 agenda for sustainable development adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015](#).
