



General Affairs Council Luxembourg, 21 June 2022

Chairs: Clément Beaune, minister delegate for Europe

The meeting will start at 10.15. A press conference will take place at the end of the meeting (+/- 15.00).

Ministers will prepare the European Council which will take place on 23-24 June.

They will exchange views on the follow-up to the proposals made by the Conference on the Future of Europe.

The presidency will inform ministers about the work carried out since the beginning of the semester on the proposal for a regulation on transparency and targeting of political advertising.

In the context of the European Semester proceedings, ministers will be invited to endorse the 2022 country-specific recommendations.

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[General Affairs Council – meeting page](#)

[Press conferences and public events by video streaming](#)

[Video coverage in broadcast quality \(MPEG4\) and photo gallery](#)

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

European Council – June 2022

Ministers will prepare the agenda for the next European Council meeting which will take place on 23-24 June. At this European Council meeting, EU leaders will discuss the different dimensions of the situation caused by the Russian military aggression against Ukraine. They will discuss the economic situation and the follow-up to the proposals made by the Conference on the Future of Europe. They will hold a strategic debate on the European Union's relations with its partners in Europe. They will also examine the applications of Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova to join the European Union.

[Draft annotated agenda of the European Council](#) (23-24 June 2022)

Conference on the Future of Europe

On 9 May, at the closing ceremony of the Conference on the Future of Europe, the final report of the Conference was submitted to the three co-presidents of the Conference on the Future of Europe. The report presents 49 proposals broken down into 326 measures. It is the result of an unprecedented Europe-wide year-long exercise that mobilised European citizens through an online consultation as well as European and national panels. On that occasion, the co-presidents reaffirmed, on behalf of each of their institutions, the collective commitment made at the time of the adoption of the Joint Declaration in 2021 to follow up on the Conference's proposals, within the limits of their own sphere of competence and in accordance with the Treaty.

On 23 May, the General Affairs Council initiated the follow-up to the work of the Conference by agreeing on a methodology.

This Council meeting will allow ministers to have an initial discussion on the substance of the proposals, based in particular on the analysis carried out by the General Secretariat of the Council.

[Conference on the future of Europe](#) (Background information)

European Semester 2022

Ministers plan to endorse the 2022 country-specific recommendations, which contain country-specific policy guidance on macroeconomic, fiscal and budgetary reforms, and forward them to the European Council for endorsement.

The European Semester is a cycle of economic, fiscal, labour and social policy coordination within the EU. It is part of the European Union's economic governance framework.

During the European Semester the member states align their budgetary and economic policies with the rules agreed at EU level.

[European Semester](#) (Background information)

[Who does what in the European Semester](#) (infographic)

Transparency and targeting of political advertising

The presidency will inform ministers about the work carried out since the beginning of the semester and will present its reflections for further work.

The proposal for a regulation was presented by the Commission on 25 November 2021. This is one of the two main elements of the “Democracy and integrity of the European elections” package, with the revision of the regulation on the statute and financing of political parties, for which the Council adopted its mandate in March 2022 in view of the upcoming discussions with the Parliament.

At the General Affairs Council on 25 January, the member states supported the principle of increasing the transparency of political advertising, the framing of targeting and amplification techniques and the importance of data protection.

[European Democracy: Commission sets out new laws on political advertising, electoral rights and party funding](#) (European Commission press release)

Outermost regions

The Council will approve conclusions on the outermost regions of the Union, building on the Commission’s communication “Putting people first, securing sustainable and inclusive growth, unlocking the potential of the EU’s outermost regions”. This renewed strategy aims not only to respond to the challenges facing the outermost regions, but also to highlight their assets, in order to promote their harmonious development.
