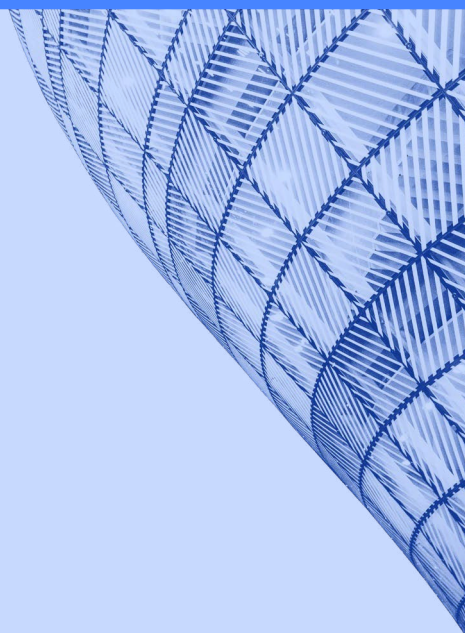




Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

The Council's follow-up to the Conference on the Future of Europe

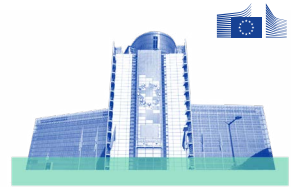
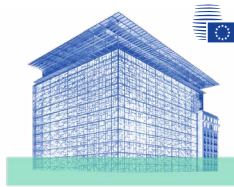
2023





The Conference on the Future of Europe

was launched in March 2021 as a joint undertaking of the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, **to listen to European citizens** and let them have their say on the future of Europe, through a citizen-led series of debates and deliberations. The focus is now on the follow-up.



Conference on the Future of Europe
Citizens' Component Meeting

During the Conference, the Council actively participated with **the rotating Presidency and the representatives of the 27 Member States** at different levels. **The representatives of the Council supported and encouraged the work of the citizens** in the panels (composed of randomly selected citizens) and in the Plenary, where citizens, representatives of the EU institutions and other stakeholders, discussed citizens' recommendations.

The final report of the Conference was presented on **9 May 2022** and includes **49 proposals** and **326 specific measures**.

The President of the Council, together with the President of the European Parliament and the President of the Commission, committed to examine swiftly how to **follow up** effectively on the proposals in the Conference's final report.

326

specific measures

49

proposals



Conference on the Future of Europe - Closing ceremony on 9 May 2022

An important number of the Conference's proposals and measures require the **joint work of the three institutions** in the ordinary legislative procedure: the Commission as the main initiator of EU legislation and the European Parliament and the Council as co-legislators. Since 9 May 2022, the **General Affairs Council**, composed of EU Affairs Ministers and State Secretaries, has regularly discussed the Conference follow-up.

What is the Council's role?

The Council is composed of **representatives of the governments of the Member States of the European Union**, themselves democratically accountable either to their national Parliaments, or to their citizens and fulfilling a policy mandate that has arisen out of national elections. **The Council** exercises, jointly **with the European Parliament**, legislative and budgetary functions. **The Council** also carries out **policy-making and coordination** functions. When exercising these functions, the Council seeks to find **common solutions** and takes into account the interests of the citizens of the different Member States. When adopting legislative acts in the ordinary legislative procedure, the Council acts as a **rule by qualified majority**. A vote by unanimity only takes place if explicitly foreseen in the Treaties.



1

The Council is fully committed to responding to citizens' concerns

expressed in the Conference. To this end, right after 9 May 2022, the Council worked on the basis of a comprehensive technical assessment prepared by its services. This analysis identified the extent to which EU institutions have or are already following up on each of the 49 proposals and 326 measures of the Conference's final report, and how they could be further implemented.

2

The Council has focused its work on the follow-up to **the 95 % of the Conference's proposals** related to specific policies, **which can already be implemented within the current Treaty framework**. The objective is to provide answers to citizens' daily concerns within a relatively short time frame. To this end, the Council has taken concrete steps towards implementing the Conference's proposals in many different areas, such as:



economy



social justice



external relations



energy



climate change



the environment



health

3

The comprehensive assessment of the Conference proposals and measures

was updated in November 2022 to reflect the follow-up work undertaken or already achieved by the EU institutions until this date, and is available on the [Council's website](#).

4

Work on the follow-up within the Council is ongoing! Stay tuned!



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