



Council of the European Union

PRESS
EN

BACKGROUND BRIEF¹

Brussels, 17 July 2025

General Affairs Council Brussels, 18 July 2025

Chair: Marie Bjerre, Minister for European affairs of Denmark

The meeting will start at **09:30**.

Ministers responsible for European affairs will meet in Brussels to hear a presentation by the Commission on its first package of proposals on the EU's post-2027 long-term budget (**Multiannual Financial Framework**) and hold a policy debate.

The Council will then discuss the request by Spain to include Catalan, Basque and Galician in **regulation No 1/1958**, which governs the EU's language regime.

Under any other business, the Danish presidency will inform the Council about the handling of the **simplification** agenda.

A press conference will take place after the meeting (+/- **13:15**).

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[General Affairs Council, 18 July 2025 - 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.

EU's post-2027 long-term budget

The Council will hear a presentation by the Commission on its first package of proposals on the EU's **post-2027 long-term budget** and will hold an initial exchange of views.

Since 1988, the EU has been functioning with long-term budgets called **multiannual financial frameworks** (MFF). Long-term budgets aim to provide a stable framework, with overall spending limits to:

- align spending with the EU's political priorities
- increase predictability of EU finances for co-financers and beneficiaries
- ensure budgetary discipline
- make it easier to adopt the annual EU budget

To finance the EU's **long-term priorities** across different policy areas, while also tackling unprecedented and unexpected challenges, the **current MFF for 2021-2027** includes a comprehensive financial package that combines:

- €1 216 billion under the multiannual financial framework (in current prices)
- €807 billion under the extraordinary recovery instrument, Next Generation EU (in current prices)

The MFF 2021-2027 was further reinforced with €64.6 billion in the mid-term revision, to finance priorities such as support to Ukraine, migration and external action.

On 16 July 2025, the Commission presented its proposal for a **new MFF for 2028-2034** amounting to **almost €2 trillion**. The exchange of views in the General Affairs Council marks the beginning of the discussions in the Council. Regular discussions in the General Affairs Council will take place during the Danish presidency with a view to ensuring as much progress on the proposal to guide further negotiations.

[*A dynamic EU Budget for the priorities of the future - The Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034, Commission communication, 16 July 2025*](#)

[*An ambitious budget for a stronger Europe: 2028-2034, Commission press release, 16 July 2025*](#)

[*Questions and answers on the next long-term budget, Commission background information, 16 July 2025*](#)

[*EU budget 2028-2034, Commission factsheets, 16 July 2025*](#)

[*The EU long-term budget \(background information\)*](#)

Catalan, Basque and Galician

The Council will hold an exchange of views on the request by Spain to include Catalan, Basque and Galician in **regulation No 1/1958**, which governs the EU's language regime.

The issue was discussed several times in 2023 and 2025 during the Spanish and Polish presidencies. On 1 July 2025, Spain requested to include amendments to Regulation 1/1958 on the agenda of the GAC meeting of 18 July.

[*General Affairs Council, 27 May 2025 \(main results\)*](#)

[*Request by Spain for modification of Regulation No 1 determining the languages to be used by the European Economic Community*](#)

Any other business

Under 'any other business', the Danish presidency will inform the Council about the handling of the **simplification** agenda.